

Updated: CRF Frozen Foods Expands Voluntary Recall to Include All Frozen Vegetable and Fruit Products Due To Possible Health Risk

**For Immediate Release
Contact**

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Announcement

Updated Items:

- Formatting changes have been made to O Organics, Pantry Essentials, Safeway Kitchens, and Signature Kitchens product codes.
- No products have been added.

PASCO, Wash., — As a precaution, CRF Frozen Foods of Pasco, Washington is expanding its voluntary recall of frozen organic and traditional fruits and vegetables. We are performing this voluntary recall in cooperation with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) because these products have the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*. The organism can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Although healthy individuals may suffer only short-term symptoms such as high fever, severe headache, stiffness, nausea, abdominal pain, and diarrhea, *Listeria* infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women.

This expanded recall of frozen vegetables includes all of the frozen organic and traditional fruit and vegetable products manufactured or processed in CRF Frozen Foods' Pasco facility since May 1, 2014. All affected products have the best by dates or sell by dates between April 26, 2016 and April 26, 2018. These include approximately 358 consumer products sold under 42 separate brands, the details of which are listed below. Products include organic and non-organic broccoli, butternut squash, carrots, cauliflower, corn, edamame, green beans, Italian beans, kale, leeks, lima beans, onions, peas, pepper strips, potatoes, potato medley, root medley, spinach, sweet potatoes, various vegetable medleys, blends, and stir fry packages, blueberries, cherries, cranberries, peaches, raspberries, and strawberries. For a complete list of affected products, see below.

We apologize for any concern or inconvenience this expanded recall has caused our customers and consumers who enjoy our products. We are issuing this release to alert consumers not to eat these products. Consumers who purchased these products may return them to the store where they were purchased for a refund, or simply discard them. Consumers with questions may call the company's consumer hotline at 844.483.3866, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Eastern Standard Time.

CRF had already suspended operations at its Pasco, Washington facility as of Monday morning, April 25, 2016 following the initial voluntary recall, so a thorough review could be conducted.

CDC has informed CRF Frozen Foods that the government has identified seven people from three states who became ill and were hospitalized due to *Listeria*. Some of these illnesses have been linked to consuming CRF-manufactured or processed products. CDC also informed us that, sadly, two of these individuals later died, but that *Listeria* was not the cause of death in either person.

All retailers who received the products have been contacted.

Products being recalled may have been purchased in all fifty U.S. states and the following Canadian Provinces: British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan.

CRF-Branded Products

Instructions to Consumer> All Best By Dates, All Frozen Vegetables and Fruit Items Best By will include the following dates 04.26.16 thru 04.26.18

All Codes are found on the Back of the Bag in the following location down the back seam

*** We believe that none of the products being recalled were processed or offered through the national office.**

* We strongly encourage you to notify your agencies within one business day from receipt of this notice.

* ALL cased and uncased inventories, both at the member level and agency level, need to be checked. This product may have entered member and agency warehouses through salvage, local donations, TEFAP, local purchases, retail pickups, food drives, or other avenues.

* For additional local details, please contact the Health Department(s) for the area(s) your food bank serves.

For full details on the recall, please

visit: http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm499406.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

If you have questions, please contact Wayne Melichar, Food Safety Manager, at wmelichar@feedingamerica.org or 312.629.7263.