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Dole Fresh Vegetables announces voluntary recall.

The Kane County Health Department is advising residents that Dole Fresh Vegetables, Inc., is voluntarily withdrawing from the market all Dole-branded and private label packaged salads processed at its Springfield, Ohio, plant because the products may be contaminated.

You can view the product list at <http://www.cdc.gov/listeria/outbreaks/>.

The products were distributed in numerous states, including Illinois. So far a total of 12 people in six states have reported becoming ill with listeria since July, 2015, however none of those have been reported in Illinois. Products subject to the voluntary withdrawal are identified with a product code beginning with the letter "A" in the upper right-hand corner of the package.

No additional Dole facilities are affected. Retailers and consumers who have any remaining product with an "A" code should not consume it, and are urged to discard it. Retailer and consumer questions about the voluntary withdrawal should be directed to the Dole Food Company Consumer Response Center at 800-356-3111) (hours are 8:00am-8:00pm Eastern Time, Monday through Friday). Media inquiries should be directed to Bill Goldfield at 818-874-4647. The CDC offers this advice to consumers, retailers and restaurants at <http://www.cdc.gov/listeria/outbreaks/bagged-salads-01-16/advice-consumers.html>.

Listeriosis, a serious infection usually caused by eating food contaminated with the bacterium *Listeria monocytogenes*, is an important public health problem in the United States. The disease primarily affects older adults, pregnant women, newborns, and adults with weakened immune systems. However, rarely, people without these risk factors can also be affected.

Retailers which carry Dole products produced in its Springfield, OH plant (with the product code beginning with the letter "A" in the upper right-hand corner of the package) should check their store shelves and warehouse inventories to confirm that no withdrawn product is available for purchase by consumers. Dole Fresh Vegetables' customer service representatives have been contacting retailers, and are in the process of confirming that the withdrawn product has been removed from the supply chain.

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