

GEORGE LATIMER, Westchester County Executive

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RECALL OF DELI MEATS LINKED TO LISTERIA EXPANDED

Boar's Head and Old Country Virginia Ham, Salami and Bologna added to Recall

(White Plains, NY) – The U.S Department of Agriculture has expanded its recall of deli meats linked to a multi-state *Listeria* outbreak. An additional 71 varieties of Virginia ham, salami and bologna that were produced in a Virginia plant and sold under the Boar's Head and Old Country brands have been added, in addition to the original Boar's Head liverwurst that tested positive for the listeriosis bacteria.

Westchester County Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD said: “We want people to be aware of this recall of deli meat, and the potential risk of a *Listeria* infection. If you have these products in your refrigerator at home discard of them immediately, or return them to the store where the food was purchased. Check the Health Department's website for proper cleaning protocols to sanitize your refrigerator and prevent the contamination of other foods. If you have consumed these products and are exhibiting symptoms, contact your health care provider immediately.”

For a full list of the contaminated products and more detailed cleaning instructions, visit the [Health Department's website](#).

There were 33 people who were hospitalized in connection with the *Listeria* outbreak across 13 states. There have been two deaths; one in Illinois and one in New Jersey. *Listeria* infection can affect anyone who eats contaminated food, causing mild intestinal illness. It is especially harmful for those who are pregnant, age 65 or older, or who have a weakened immune system due to certain medical conditions or treatments. *Listeria* can cause pregnancy loss, premature birth or a life-threatening infection in a newborn and can be deadly for seniors and those with weakened immunity.

Anyone who ate food linked to this outbreak and who has a fever and other symptoms of listeriosis, such as fatigue and muscle aches, should contact a healthcare provider. Most medical experts say that anyone who may have eaten contaminated food but does not feel sick does not need tests or treatment. Talk with a healthcare provider if you have questions about what to do.

An estimated 1,600 people get *Listeria* food poisoning each year and about 260 die, according to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. *Listeria* infections typically cause fever, muscle aches and tiredness and may cause stiff neck, confusion, loss of balance and convulsions. Symptoms can occur quickly or to up to 10 weeks after eating contaminated food.

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