



January 16, 2024

Urgent Health Advisory: Potential Lead Contamination in Cinnamon Applesauce Pouches

Dear Community Members,

The Delaware Division of Public Health has been made aware of **lead** in certain **cinnamon applesauce pouches**. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have found a connection between high Blood Lead Levels (BLLs) in children and consumption of these products.

We urge parents, schools, and caretakers to remain vigilant as products are recalled and removed from shelves. Lead is a metal that can be harmful to your health. Eating these products may pose a health risk, especially for children and pregnant people.

Brands with recalls: The following brands have initiated voluntary recalls of certain lots of the following products:

- **WanaBana brand apple cinnamon fruit purée pouches**
- **Schnuck brand cinnamon-flavored applesauce pouches and variety packs (not sold in Delaware retailers)**
- **Weis brand cinnamon applesauce pouches**

Retailers:

- **Dollar Tree**
- **Weis Market**
- **Amazon and other online retailers**



Potential Health Risks: Lead can be bad for your health, especially for young children and babies. Even a little bit of lead can cause serious health issues such as: delays in development, trouble learning, constipation, and behavior problems.

What to do: If you or your family members have eaten cinnamon applesauce pouches from the brands the FDA has talked about, do these things quickly:

1. **Stop eating the affected product:** If you have any of the mentioned brands or batches, don't eat them. Throw them away or take them back to the store.
2. **Seek medical advice:** Talk to your doctor, especially if you or your kids ate these pouches.
3. **Blood lead testing:** It's strongly recommended that any individuals who have eaten the recalled products receive a blood lead test. Contact your doctor about lead testing. If you do not have a doctor, contact the closest state service center.
4. **Watch for symptoms:** If your child ate one of the pouches that got recalled, talk to their doctor about checking for lead. Keep an eye out for signs like headaches, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, changes in activity level, and anemia.



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Division of Public Health

Getting tested: If you or a family member is suffering from any of the symptoms above after consuming these products, seek immediate medical attention. Ask your primary care physician about ordering a lead test. The Department of Health and Social Services provides:

- [Lead Testing - Delaware Health and Social Services - State of Delaware,](https://dhss.delaware.gov/dph/chs/chsleadtesting.html)
https://dhss.delaware.gov/dph/chs/chsleadtesting.html
- [Lead Poisoning Prevention Program - Delaware Health and Social Services - State of Delaware,](https://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/hsp/lead.html)
https://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/hsp/lead.html
- [Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention - Delaware Health and Social Services - State of Delaware,](https://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/hsp/hhlppparents.html)
https://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/hsp/hhlppparents.html

More information: Check out the official CDC and FDA advisories for more details about the products and updates on this issue:

- CDC Advisory: [Lead Poisoning Outbreak Linked to Cinnamon Applesauce Pouches,](https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/news/lead-poisoning-outbreak-linked-to-cinnamon-applesauce-pouches.html)
https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/news/lead-poisoning-outbreak-linked-to-cinnamon-applesauce-pouches.html
- FDA Advisory: [Investigation of Elevated Lead Levels in Cinnamon Applesauce Pouches,](https://www.fda.gov/food/outbreaks-foodborne-illness/investigation-elevated-lead-chromium-levels-cinnamon-applesauce-pouches-november-2023) https://www.fda.gov/food/outbreaks-foodborne-illness/investigation-elevated-lead-chromium-levels-cinnamon-applesauce-pouches-november-2023

Your health and well-being are of utmost importance to us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Blessing".

Steven L. Blessing, MA
Director
Division of Public Health