



## *Department of Public Health*

Monroe County, New York

**Adam J. Bello**  
*County Executive*

**Michael D. Mendoza, MD, MPH, MS**  
*Commissioner of Public Health*

**For Immediate Release**

**Tuesday, December 12, 2023**

### **Monroe County Department of Public Health Confirms Lead Poisoning Case Linked to Nationwide Applesauce Recall**

The Monroe County Department of Public Health has confirmed at least one case of lead poisoning related to the nationwide recall of several brands of applesauce products:

- WanaBana Apple Cinnamon Fruit Puree pouches, including 3-packs of 2.5 oz. pouches
- Schnucks Cinnamon Flavored Applesauce 90g pouches and variety pack
- Weis Cinnamon Applesauce 90g pouches

DPH investigators linked the Monroe County case to WanaBana Apple Cinnamon Fruit Puree purchased at a local Dollar Tree. This occurred prior to the recall, which was issued by the manufacturer on November 9, 2023. Retailers were directed to remove these products from the shelves and dispose of them.

Commissioner of Public Health Dr. Michael Mendoza recommends Monroe County residents check their homes for these products, and empty any remaining applesauce into the trash before disposing of the packaging. If a child has consumed any of these products, parents should immediately contact their child's healthcare provider to schedule a blood test. There is no safe level of lead in children, and most children will not have immediate symptoms of lead poisoning.

DPH has already alerted local healthcare providers to screen for cases of elevated blood lead level related to children who have ingested products involved in the recall. While current cases across the country involve children under 6 years of age, older children and teens who consumed these products may also be at risk for lead toxicity.

***For members of the media ONLY:*** Dr. Michael Mendoza will be available to answer questions regarding this release immediately following the Zoom press conference scheduled for 2 PM today. Interested members of the media should remain on the Zoom call after the press conference (there will not be a new Zoom link).