

### **Product Recalls: What you should know**

Product recalls are a method of public safety which removes products off the market if there is reason to believe the product may be hazardous. Recalls can be related to products such as food, medications, medical devices, household products, and more. Depending on the reason for recall, exposure to recalled items may cause minimal, mild, or even serious health effects. Staying up to date on recall notices is important as this helps consumers avoid the recalled item or take proper action if they find they have an item that was recalled. Keep reading to learn more about recalls, what to do if you have a recalled item, and how to stay informed.

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#### Why do recalls happen?

Items can be recalled due to contamination, presence of foreign objects, failure to list major allergens, or if a product has a defect that may cause it to function improperly.

#### **FDA Recall Classifications**

**Class 1:** Reasonable probability to believe that exposure to a product would cause significant adverse health effects or even death.

**Class 2:** Use or exposure to a product may cause temporary health effects and serious health effects are not likely.

**Class 3:** Use or exposure to a product is not likely to cause adverse health effects.

#### How to determine if you have a recalled product

- Check agency websites such as recalls.gov or the FDA or USDA website to find products that have been recalled
- Identify specific information such as brand name, manufacturing dates, product codes, and other identifying information listed on the recall notice
- Compare details on recall notice to details on your products. If you the information on your products reflects that of the recalled product stop using the product immediately.

# AZ Poison Center Website



Scan the QR code or visit <u>azpoison.com</u>



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#### What to do if you have a recalled product

- Dispose of the product properly. If the product is contaminated, wrap securely before tossing it in trash. Ensure it is not accessible to children or animals.
- Wash and sanitize surfaces that may have been in contact with the contaminated product.
- Product recall notices may have specific guidelines as to how to dispose of a recalled product, follow these guidelines.

#### How to stay up to date on recalls

- recalls.gov: Hub of information on all types of recalled products. Allows you to search recalls by product type. You can sign up for email alerts.
- FDA Website: Information on recalls related to food, drugs, and medical devices.
- **USDA Website:** Information on recalls related to meat, poultry, and egg products.

## What should you do if you suspect a recalled product made you sick or injured

If you or someone is experiencing illness, injury, allergic reaction or any other kind of health effect contact your health care provider. You can also report issues to regulation agencies such as the FDA and to product distributors.



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## In the Community: Desert Medicine Conference

#### **Desert Medicine Conference**

On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, several staff from our center participated in the Desert Medicine Conference which took place in Tucson. Our Community Outreach Coordinators, Heather and Taylor, joined Wildlife Biologist, Mike Cardwell, to host a display providing education about rattlesnakes and Gila monsters. Other staff members also gave presentations during the conference.

