



Ohio Department of Agriculture
and
Ohio Department of Health



Governor Bob Taft
Lieutenant Governor Jennette Bradley

ODA Director Fred L. Dailey
ODH Director J. Nick Baird, M.D.

To: Health Commissioners, Environmental Health Directors, Nursing Directors,
ODA Food Safety Specialists, and Other Interested Parties

Subject: Recall Announcement (ODA/ODH) 2004-18

Date: May 7, 2004

Valley Services of Cincinnati, Ohio is voluntarily recalling chilled meals

Valley Services of Cincinnati, Ohio is voluntarily recalling chilled meals delivered on May 3, 2004 to the participants of Meals on Wheels in Clinton, Clermont, Hamilton and Butler Counties, which tested positive for *Listeria monocytogenes*.

The meal contained Salisbury steak, gravy, potatoes and broccoli and should not be consumed.

If you are in possession of any of these meals, please contact Rex Stewart at (513) 761-9556 to arrange for pickup.

Valley Services is a state licensed food contracting company that caters meals for the Meals on Wheels program and is regularly inspected by the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Division of Meat Inspection.

Signs of listeriosis include flu-like symptoms, gastrointestinal distress and sudden onset of fever with headache, nausea and vomiting. The incubation period ranges from three to 70 days. Infection during pregnancy can lead to premature labor, an infected infant or stillbirth.

Listeriosis is caused by the bacterium *Listeria monocytogenes*, found widely in the environment and in animals. Milk, soft cheeses, cole slaw, uncooked hot dogs, ready-to-eat meals and undercooked chicken have all been associated with outbreaks.