



Office of Environmental Health & Safety  
333 S. Beaudry Avenue, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
Phone: (213) 241-3199  
Fax: (213) 241-6816



# SAFETY ALERT

---

**No. 07-03      LUNCHBOX AND EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT BAG RECALL      OCTOBER 2007**

---

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued a news release on September 20, 2007, notifying consumers to stop using certain lunchboxes that were distributed by CDPH due to lead contamination. Some of these soft, cooler-type lunchboxes were also distributed within LAUSD. Emergency equipment bags distributed throughout LAUSD were also found to be contaminated with lead. These bags were all manufactured in China and distributed by T-A Creations of Los Angeles, Graphic Ice of McMinnville, Oregon, and perhaps other vendors.

Exposure to lead is potentially dangerous to the developing nervous systems of children. Lead exposure could occur as a result of ingestion of food contaminated through contact with the lunchbox surfaces, or via the normal hand-to-mouth activity of children. Although no illnesses have been reported to date, and the risk is thought to be relatively low, affected lunchboxes and equipment bags are being recalled as a precautionary measure.

The lead is used by some manufacturers to "stabilize" the vinyl lining and the silk screened logos. The canvas covering, the vinyl lining and the painted logos were all found to contain high lead levels.

This recall includes the four types of bags shown on page two of this Safety Alert: Green and black canvas lunchboxes with a yellow logo and white lettering "Eat Fruits and Vegetables and Be Active"; blue and black canvas lunchboxes with only the LAUSD Nursing Services logo; black lunchboxes and book bags with the LAUSD logo and yellow lettering "Making a Difference Every Day"; and red backpack bags available from the warehouse with white lettering "LAUSD Classroom Emergency Kit" (SKU 345-32-48380).

Such lunchboxes or equipment bags should be placed in a sealed plastic bag and returned to the Plant Manager at your location for proper disposal. For centrally located offices, bags can be dropped off at the Office of Environmental Health & Safety.

Contact the Office of Environmental Health & Safety (OEHS) at 213-241-3199 if you have additional questions.

---

**DISTRIBUTION:**      All Schools and Local District Offices

# These Bags Are Recalled



---

DISTRIBUTION: All Schools and Local District Offices