

From SAU 39 School Nutrition Office:

Last week, the Center for Disease Control issued a **Recall** of specific Romaine lettuce products grown in Salinas Valley, CA due to an outbreak of E. coli O157:H7. None of the recalled products have been used in the kitchens of SAU39 (Amherst, Mont Vernon, and Souhegan Cooperative School District). At the same time, in an abundance of caution, the CDC has also issued a Health Advisory, suggesting consumers discard any Romaine lettuce grown in the Salinas region, even though all of the illnesses are tied to the specific products mentioned in the recall.

Today, Amherst Middle School served some sandwiches (approximately 20) with Romaine lettuce, which was grown in Salinas, CA. The Romaine that was served was washed and prepared according to current food safety and sanitation regulations. All remaining Romaine lettuce has been discarded, and all work surfaces in contact with the Romaine used today have been washed and sanitized. It is very unlikely that anyone who ate these sandwiches will become sick however, once we became aware of this mistake we decided it was important to inform anyone who might have consumed this lettuce in case symptoms of stomach distress arise. If symptoms are going to appear it will be within the first 24-48 hours. Again, it is unlikely anyone will be impacted by this but given that these symptoms could be overlooked, it was important that we make you aware.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this issue, please contact John Lash, the Director of School Nutrition, at 603-673-2690 x. 2114 or jlash@sprise.com