

Wal-Mart & Nalgene Removing Toxic Bottles, Place Consumers' Concerns First

FALLS CHURCH, Va., April 18, 2008 /PRNewswire-USNewswire via COMTEX/ -- U.S. & Canada Declare Health Risks from Bisphenol-A

Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer, announced today, that it was immediately removing baby bottles and other products made with bisphenol-A (BPA) from its Canadian stores presently, and baby bottles containing BPA from its U.S. stores next year, coupled with Nalgene's announced plans to phase out all BPA bottles was applauded by environmental health organizations.

Several groups have stepped up their call for BPA restrictions with the release of new findings of BPA in baby bottles, infant formula cans, Nalgene bottles and human samples. Wal-Mart's and Nalgene's announcements come on the heels of new U.S. and Canadian government warnings just this week: On Tuesday, the U.S. National Institute of Health declared evidence of links to cancer from bisphenol-A. A coalition petition drive to ban BPA from all baby bottles can be found at <http://www.babystoxicbottle.org>.

Mia Davis of Clean Water Fund: "It is great to see that both the U.S. and Canadian governments are finally recognizing the scientific studies showing risk for health effects from exposure to bisphenol-A, and in the same week, that Wal-Mart and Nalgene are appropriately responding to these serious health risks by pulling BPA products from the market."

"We are delighted that Wal-Mart and Nalgene are doing the only sensible thing in light of the reality that BPA in baby and water bottles show great risk of causing harm to infants and consumers who drink from them," said Mike Schade, of the Center for Health, Environment and Justice. "We call on Target, Walgreen's, and other major retailers to join Wal-Mart in protecting consumers, especially children, from a chemical that more and more research keeps showing is dangerous to our most vulnerable resource, our children."

The Wal-Mart announcement came about in part due to a letter from the Learning Disabilities Association (LDA) of America. Maureen Swanson, Healthy Children Project Coordinator for LDA says, "**In animal studies, very low level exposure to Bisphenol-A has been linked to impaired learning, hyperactivity and aggression. We applaud Wal-Mart's decision to protect our children's developing brains and bodies from exposure to Bisphenol-A in baby bottles, and hope that their swift action spurs national efforts to ban use of this toxic chemical altogether.**"

SOURCE Center for Health, Environment & Justice