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Date: June 20, 2011

TO: Health Commissioners, Directors of Environmental Health and Interested Parties

RE: Recall Announcement (ODA/ODH) 2011-072

### Earth Fare Recall on Frozen Spicy Bean Burgers in Akron, Ohio Due To Possible Health Risks

June 17, 2011 – Earth Fare, Fletcher, NC is recalling its frozen Earth Fare Spicy Bean Burger with UPC code 8-78602-00518 and lot codes #05311 and #06711 because of a potential *Salmonella* contamination. No other Earth Fare Veggie Burger products were affected.

The product was distributed and sold only in the Earth Fare located in Akron, OH.

*Salmonella* is an organism, which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with *Salmonella* often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, infection with *Salmonella* can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections (i.e. infected aneurysms), endocarditis and arthritis. For more information on *Salmonella*, please visit the website for the Center for Disease Control and Prevention at <http://www.cdc.gov>.<sup>1</sup>

The product is sold in 10-ounce boxes with **lot code:** #05311 and #06711 and displays the following **UPC code:**

- 8-78602-00518 Earth Fare Natural Spicy Bean Burger

There have been no reported incidents by consumers. Earth Fare assures every precautionary measure should be taken when it comes to consumer health and safety. This recall does not impact any other frozen veggie burgers sold at Earth Fare.

The recall was the result of a routine sampling program conducted by the Food and Drug Administration, which revealed that the finished product contained the bacteria. Earth Fare has removed all affected lot codes from all store shelves as FDA and the company continue their investigation as to the cause of the problem.

If consumers have purchased product with the indicated UPC code and lot codes, they are urged to return the product to the store for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact the company by calling 828-281-4800 x. 180, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.