

## Company Announcement

When a company announces a recall, market withdrawal, or safety alert, the FDA posts the company's announcement as a public service. FDA does not endorse either the product or the company.

# Merrick Pet Care Voluntarily Recalls Limited Amount of Good Buddy and Backcountry Treats Containing Beef Due to Potentially Elevated Levels of Thyroid Hormone

## For Immediate Release

May 23, 2018

## Contact

### Consumers

Merrick Pet Care

✉ [customerservice@merrickpetcare.com](mailto:customerservice@merrickpetcare.com) (mailto: customerservice@merrickpetcare.com)

☎ 1-800-664-7387 

### Media

✉ [merrickmedia@merrickpetcare.com](mailto:merrickmedia@merrickpetcare.com) (mailto:merrickmedia@merrickpetcare.com)

☎ 1-800-982-9448 

## Announcement

Merrick Pet Care, of Amarillo, Texas, is initiating a voluntary recall of a limited amount of beef dog treat varieties due to the potential that they contain elevated levels of a naturally-occurring beef thyroid hormone.

Dogs consuming high levels of beef thyroid hormone may exhibit the following symptoms: increased thirst and urination, weight loss, increased heart rate and restlessness. These symptoms may resolve when consumption decreases. If a dog consumes high levels for a long period of time, these symptoms may increase in severity and may include vomiting, diarrhea and rapid or labored breathing. If your pet has consumed the product listed and has exhibited any of these symptoms, please discontinue feeding and contact your veterinarian.

The voluntary recall covers only specific production codes of the following beef treat products:

- Castor & Pollux Good Buddy Prime Patties Real Beef Recipe 4 oz.
- Castor & Pollux Good Buddy Sausage Cuts Real Beef Recipe 5 oz.
- Merrick Backcountry Great Plains Real Beef Jerky 4.5 oz.
- Merrick Backcountry Great Plains Real Beef Sausage Cuts 5 oz.
- Merrick Backcountry Great Plains Real Steak Patties 4 oz.

The voluntary recall is limited to the production codes listed below. To locate the production code, consumers should look on the lower back of the treat bag. No other production codes, sizes or varieties of these products are affected.

This potential health risk was brought to Merrick’s attention as a result of the FDA sharing one consumer complaint where the dog’s health was temporarily impacted while eating Merrick Backcountry Great Plains Real Beef Jerky 4.5 oz. The dog’s health improved and fully recovered after discontinuing consumption of the treat. Pet owners should know there is limited risk given treats are not intended for full nutrition and should only be occasionally consumed, however out of an abundance of caution, and to maintain trust with our consumers, we are withdrawing all potentially impacted product. We have not received any similar reports to date from consumers about issues with these products.

If you have product, please contact us at 1-800-664-7387 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central Time Monday through Friday or [customerservice@merrickpetcare.com](mailto:customerservice@merrickpetcare.com) (<https://merrickpetcare.cus-thelp.com/app/ask>) so we can provide a refund. Or, visit our website and fill out a form: [www.merrickpetcare.com/customerrelations](http://www.merrickpetcare.com/customerrelations) (<http://www.merrickpetcare.com/customerrelations>).

No other Merrick or Castor & Pollux products are impacted. These treats are distributed in the U.S. through pet specialty, grocery and online retailers with limited distribution in Canada.

Item	UPC	Best Before Date Range
Castor & Pollux Good Buddy Prime Patties Real Beef Recipe 4 oz.	780872510806	5/1/2017 - 9/1/2019
Castor & Pollux Good Buddy Sausage Cuts Real Beef Recipe 5 oz.	780872510745	5/1/2017 - 9/1/2019
Merrick Backcountry Great Plains Real Beef Jerky 4.5 oz.	022808786160	5/1/2019 - 9/1/2019
Merrick Backcountry Great Plains Real Beef Sausage Cuts 5 oz.	022808786047	5/1/2017 - 9/1/2019
Merrick Backcountry Great Plains Real Steak Patties 4 oz.	022808786078	5/1/2017 - 9/1/2019

As a company of pet owners and pet lovers, we know our consumers place a tremendous amount of trust in us when their pet uses our products. The quality and safety of our products are the top priority for our company. We apologize to our retail customers and consumers and sincerely regret any inconvenience and concerns caused by this voluntary recall. We are working with the U.S. Food & Drug Administration on this voluntary recall and will cooperate with them fully.

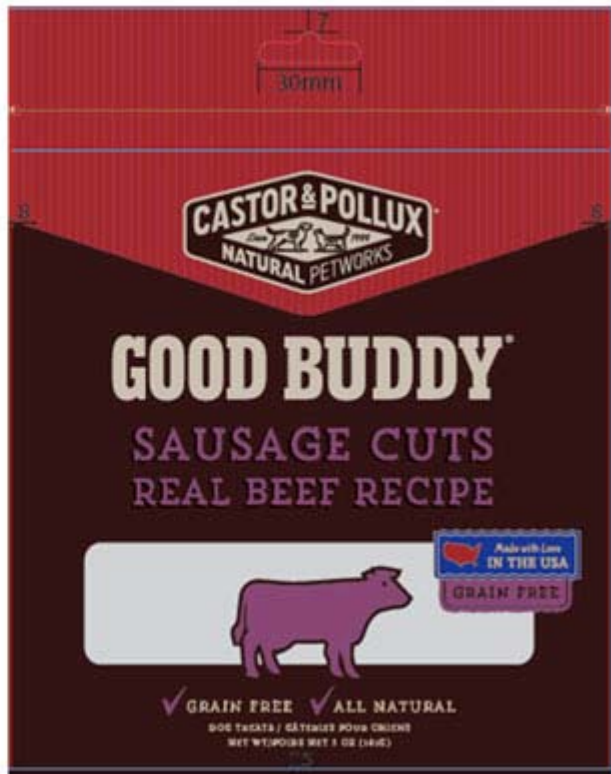
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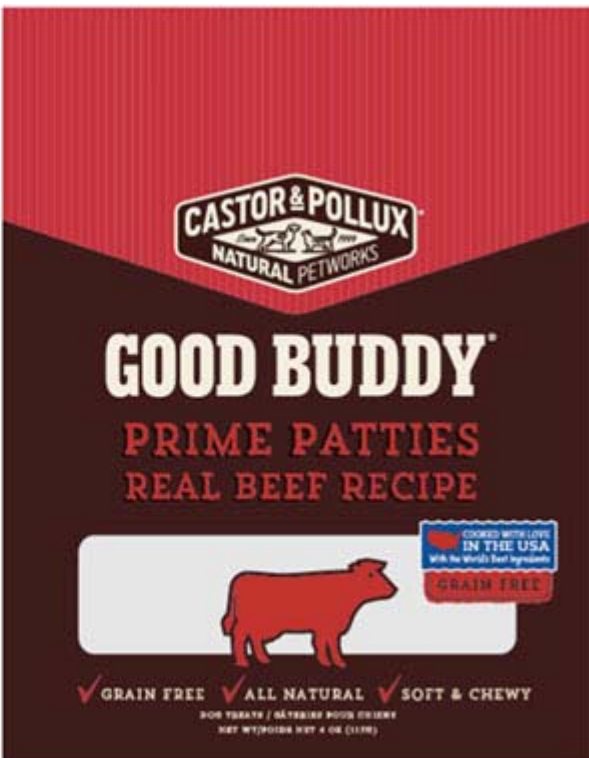
**UPC CODE**  
780872510745

**BEST BEFORE**  
Date Range:  
05/01/17 - 09/01/19



**UPC CODE**  
780872510806

**BEST BEFORE**  
Date Range:  
05/01/17 - 09/01/19



**UPC CODE**  
022808786078

**BEST BEFORE**  
Date Range:  
05/01/17 - 09/01/19

