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More Animal Deaths Feared Following Recall

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Across North America phones have been ringing off the hook at animal hospitals, and Toronto is no exception.

A massive pet food recall has sparked concerns among pet owners everywhere, and after more than a week of worry they're starting to demand some answers.

Since Menu Foods issued a recall on March 16th of contaminated pet food, pets are turning up sick or worse, all across the continent.

Officials in the U.S. have confirmed that rat poison in some of the recalled food is responsible for killing at least 16 dogs and cats. The worse news is that some lawyers are suggesting that number will not only multiply, but go through the roof.

One of those lawyers is Ted Charney, who has filed Ontario's third class action lawsuit against the Mississauga-based company, claiming his client's three cats died after eating the contaminated food.

"It's hard to accept that there's only 15 or 16 so-called confirmed cases in North America at this stage," Charney said.

"Over the next few days and weeks we're going to hear about a lot more cases than we've heard about already."

The result is some very concerned officials at Menu Foods, and the company's ordered all stores to immediately remove every variety of affected wet pet food regardless of the date code.

The "cuts and gravy" style wet food recall has cost Menu Foods \$40 million and counting. The number should rise considerably now that the company is considering paying the veterinarian bills for any pets that are confirmed to have gotten sick from eating their food.

Jeannine Shank is a Toronto woman that was feeding her cat with the recalled brand.

"He's been urinating large amounts very frequently and I thought it was a kidney-related thing," she said.

"We heard about the recall so we got concerned."

Distraught pet owners are encouraged to get their critters checked out as soon as possible.

"If they're at all concerned we recommend they come in for a check-up," said Dr. Lula Vihos at the Downtown Animal Hospital.

"We can also offer blood testing and urine testing to make sure there's no evidence of problems internally."

To see the list, [click here](#).

The organization is also urging you to monitor your pets for any signs of illness, including acute renal failure, which has been linked to the recalled food.

Call your vet immediately if your pet displays any of the following symptoms:

- vomiting,
- loss of appetite,
- lethargy,
- decreased or increased output of urine,
- difficulty urinating,
- more or less frequent urination,
- increased drinking or decreased drinking