



UNITED STATES  
**CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION**  
4330 EAST WEST HIGHWAY  
BETHESDA, MD 20814

**STATEMENT OF  
COMMISSIONER RICH TRUMKA JR.**

**March 19, 2024**

**CPSC ANNOUNCES NEW HAZARD POSED BY DEADLY WATER BEADS,  
WARNING CONSUMERS ABOUT PRODUCTS CONTAINING TOXIC ACRYLAMIDE**

Today, for the first time ever, CPSC warned consumers about the chemical poisoning hazards posed by water bead products.<sup>1</sup> While the agency has warned of the dangers water beads pose when they are ingested and expand inside of children and has recalled water beads that led to one girl’s death,<sup>2</sup> CPSC has never publicly confirmed the presence of toxic acrylamides in a particular water bead product—until now. Water beads can harm your child in multiple ways: through expanding and blocking intestinal pathways *and* also through leeching toxic chemicals. To make matters worse, some water bead products are labeled “nontoxic,” but that statement should not be taken at face value.

It’s been a few months since I challenged retailers to think about whether they really wanted to be selling products that posed such significant hazards to children. So many answered the call—and chose to prioritize safety. Water beads are no longer sold to children by Amazon, Walmart, Target, Macy’s, Joann’s, Shein, Kohl’s, Michael’s, or Hobby Lobby.<sup>3</sup> But just

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<sup>1</sup> “Water Beads,” *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (Updated Mar. 19, 2024) (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Water-Beads-Information-Center#:~:text=CPSC%20has%20also%20issued%20product,Acrylamide%20is%20a%20known%20carcinogen>).

<sup>2</sup> “Buffalo Games Recalls Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits Due to Serious Ingestion, Choking and Obstruction Hazards; One Infant Death Reported; Sold Exclusively at Target,” *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (Sept. 14, 2023) (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2023/Buffalo-Games-Recalls-Chuckle-Roar-Ultimate-Water-Beads-Activity-Kits-Due-to-Serious-Ingestion-Choking-and-Obstruction-Hazards-One-Infant-Death-Reported-Sold-Exclusively-at-Target>).

<sup>3</sup> Commissioner Trumka Receives Commitments that Jo-Ann’s, Kohl’s, and Shein Will Stop Selling Water Beads; Hobby Lobby and Wish Fail to Make Similar Commitments to Safety, Trumka Statements, *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (Jan. 2, 2024) (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/About-CPSC/Commissioner/Richard-Trumka/Statement/Commissioner-Trumka-Receives-Commitments-that-Jo-Anns-Kohls-and-Shein-Will-Stop-Selling-Water-Beads-Hobby-Lobby-and-Wish-Fail-to-Make-Similar-Commitments-to-Safety>); Ramishah Maruf, “This commissioner’s New Year goal: Regulate water beads,” *CNN* (Jan. 3, 2024) (available at: <https://www.cnn.com/2024/01/03/business/water-beads-commissioners-regulate/index.html>); Angie Moreschi & Nathan Aaron, “Moms on a mission stepping up to tackle water bead dangers as government falls short,” *Spotlight*

because they are not going to be sold going forward doesn't mean they're not still in people's homes. Today's warnings about products sold by Chinese companies Jangostor and Tuladuo are a reminder that water beads still pose a great danger.<sup>4</sup>

Faithfully,

Your consumer advocate at the Consumer Product Safety Commission

**Commissioner Richard L. Trumka Jr.**



**Jangostor Water Beads 11 ounce**

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on America (Feb. 19, 2024)(available at: <https://cbsaustin.com/news/spotlight-on-america/determined-mothers-stepping-up-to-tackle-water-bead-issues-as-government-falls-short-that-water-bead-lady-public-safety-consumer-product-safety-commission-hospital-doctor-emergency-room-injury-death-investigation-manufacturer-support-congress-ban-retail>); and Lauren Kirchner, "Amazon, Target, and Walmart Announce They Will Stop Selling Water Beads Marketed for Children," *Consumer Reports* (Dec. 12, 2023)(available at: <https://www.consumerreports.org/babies-kids/toys/amazon-to-stop-selling-water-bead-toys-a2333261526/>).

<sup>4</sup> "CPSC Warns Consumers to Immediately Stop Using Jangostor Water Beads Due to Chemical Toxicity Hazard, Violation of Federal Ban of Hazardous Substances; Sold on Amazon.com," *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (Mar. 19, 2024) (available at: <https://cpsc.gov/Newsroom/News-Releases/2024/CPSC-Warns-Consumers-to-Immediately-Stop-Using-Jangostor-Water-Beads-Due-to-Chemical-Toxicity-Hazard-Violation-of-Federal-Ban-of-Hazardous-Substances-Sold-on-Amazon-com>); and "CPSC Warns Consumers to Immediately Stop Using Tuladuo Water Bead Sets Due to Chemical Toxicity Hazard, Violation of Federal Ban of Hazardous Substances; Sold on Amazon.com," *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (Mar. 19, 2024) (available at: <https://cpsc.gov/Newsroom/News-Releases/2024/CPSC-Warns-Consumers-to-Immediately-Stop-Using-Tuladuo-Water-Bead-Sets-Due-to-Chemical-Toxicity-Hazard-Violation-of-Federal-Ban-of-Hazardous-Substances-Sold-on-Amazon-com>).



**Jangostor Water Beads 3.5 ounce**



**Tuladuo Water Bead Set (with funnels and mesh bag)**



**Tuladuo Water Bead Set (with ocean animal toys and inflatable mat)**