



West Virginia **Breastfeeding Alliance**  
*for healthier moms & babies*

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**Charleston, WV** – “The recent announcement of a recall of millions of containers of powder-based Similac-brand infant formula due to contamination with bug parts is another reminder of the importance of breastfeeding” stated Cinny Kittle with the West Virginia Breastfeeding Alliance (WVBA). The benefits of breastfeeding are immense. Breastfeeding helps build a strong immune system for the baby. The health benefits for baby include reduced risks of stomach and intestinal problems, colds, allergies, ear infections, SIDS (sudden infant death) diabetes and other health problems including obesity. There are also several health benefits to mothers who breastfeed their children.

Because breast milk involves no mixing or addition of manufactured materials, the risk of contamination from foreign materials such as bug parts is eliminated. Although Abbott Laboratories, the maker of Similac infant formula stated that in consultation with the Food and Drug Administration it was determined that there was no “immediate health risk” from the contamination, the company did say that the beetle or larvae could cause stomach ache and digestion problems in infants fed contaminated formula.

*The West Virginia Breastfeeding Alliance was formed in 2008 and welcomes new members to help further their mission. The mission of WVBA is to improve the health of West Virginians by working collaboratively to protect, promote and educate the community about breastfeeding. Additional information and membership applications can be found at [www.wvbfa.com](http://www.wvbfa.com).*

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