RABIES VACCINE DISTRIBUTION

VACCINE TO REDUCE RABIES IN WILDLIFE WILL BE DISTRIBUTED

OCTOBER 20-NOVEMBER 18 IN:

SANDWICH, MASHPEE, BARNSTABLE, YARMOUTH, DENNIS, BREWSTER, & HARWICH

If you find a vaccine/bait package:

- USE A GLOVE OR A TOWEL TO PICK IT UP. Throw it into the woods where children and pets will not find it. If no suitable place is available, dispose of the bait in the trash.

- Wash your hands thoroughly after handling the vaccine/bait package.

- If your pet has eaten or had contact with a bait, please report the contact to: USDA Wildlife Services’ MA/CT/RI Rabies Program Assistant Coordinator Ryan Bevilacqua at (413) 687-2209 (cell). The bait is not harmful to pets. We use this information to educate those distributing the baits that their baits may not have made it to their target destination.

- If you or another person has had contact with the liquid vaccine, wash the area thoroughly and call the Department of Public Health at (617) 983-6800.

Rabies is present in wildlife in all areas of Cape Cod. Do not handle wildlife. If you should come into contact with wildlife, report it to your local animal control.

Make sure your cats, dogs and other pets have received their rabies vaccinations.

For more information on the Cape Cod Oral Rabies Vaccination Program call (508) 476-2715, stop by your Town Board of Health or visit http://www.mass.gov/dph/rabies or http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ws/rabies/

Two types of oral rabies vaccination baits will be distributed: A sachet and a bait block. Both contain the same amount of vaccine.

242 ORV Bait Stations (similar to that pictured to the left) will be deployed throughout much of the mid-Cape. Each station will originally contain 60 ORV block baits and will be periodically checked over a three-week period.