

\*\*\*\*\***PRESS RELEASE**\*\*\*\*\*

The Town of Dennis Health Department would like to announce the availability of Potassium Iodide (KI) pills for the residents of the Town of Dennis.

KI is the abbreviation for potassium iodide, a nonprescription medicine that, when used properly, can prevent the uptake of radioactive iodine by the thyroid gland of humans. In the event of an accident at the Pilgrim Nuclear Facility, radioactive iodine may be released into the air. This material may be inhaled or ingested and enter the thyroid gland, where it may cause cancer and/or disease. When taken by pill, KI floods the thyroid with non-reactive iodine and prevents the thyroid from absorbing the radioactive material. If taken within a few hours of exposure, your thyroid gland is prevented from taking up any of the radioactive kind of iodine, thus preventing thyroid radiation.

The KI is available free of charge to residents of the Town of Dennis. Each household member is allowed two tablets of KI. In order to be eligible to receive the KI pills, you must provide proof of residency, such as a tax bill, current lease agreement, valid drivers license with a Town of Dennis address, or utility bill. One household member may obtain the KI pills for the entire household, provided they are over the age of 18. The recipient must sign a release form when the pills are obtained for the household.

**Residents may obtain the KI pills for household members from the Dennis Health Department Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, located at 465 Main Street in Dennisport, starting Monday, March 12, 2007.**

Questions regarding this program should be directed to the Dennis Health Department at 508-760-6158 or at [thayes@town.dennis.ma.us](mailto:thayes@town.dennis.ma.us)