

Contact: Jennifer Doyle, Mass*RIDES,* Program Coordinator 1-888-4COMMUTE Paula Leary, NRTA Administrator (508) 325-9571

PRESS RELEASE EMERGENCY RIDE HOME PROGRAM

Nantucket – The Nantucket Regional Transit Authority (NRTA) and Mass*RIDES,* the Commonwealth's statewide travel options program are pleased to announce a new *FREE* Emergency Ride Home Program available to Nantucket employers and their employees.

The Mass*RIDES* Emergency Ride Home (ERH) Program is available to any employee who commutes to work by transit, walking, bicycling or carpooling at least twice a week and enrolls in the program. This program promises employees who regularly use travel options that Mass*RIDES* will pay for the ride home if they experience a qualified emergency (*A qualified personal illness/emergency, unexpected family illness/emergency, and unscheduled overtime at supervisor's request.*). "This program provides that extra reassurance people need in order to choose an alternative to driving alone, and it's an added benefit for those who already use an alternate mode", said Jennifer Doyle, Mass*RIDES* Outreach Coordinator.

The ERH program allows employees to travel by transit or taxi up to four times per shuttle season in the case of an emergency. A receipt is then submitted to Mass*RIDES* and the employee is reimbursed for the cost of the emergency ride home.

"Many people tell me they don't use the Shuttle because they need their car in case of an emergency, the Emergency Ride Home Program, eliminates that barrier", said Paula Leary, NRTA Administrator.

Employers and employees are invited to attend a kick off event/continental breakfast to learn more about this program on May 16th at 9:00 a.m. at the Egan Maritime Foundation/Coffin School at 4 Winter Street.