

**Friends of Casco Bay / Casco Baykeeper  
43 Slocum Drive, South Portland, Maine 04106  
tel: 207-799-8574 fax: 207-799-7224**

## **Casco Bay Is the Focus of State Effort to Fight Coastal Pollution**

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For more information contact  
Mary Cerullo, (207) 799-8574

On August 10<sup>th</sup>, Governor John Baldacci signed the Nutrients Standards bill, which directs the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to work with wastewater treatment operators and other stakeholders to establish a process to reduce marine pollution from sewage discharges, fertilizers, smokestacks, and vehicle emissions. Nutrient pollution contributes to green mudflats, red tides, fish kills, marine mammal deaths, and clamflat closures.

The Governor is flanked by (*l to r*) Mike Doan, Joe Payne, and Cathy Ramsdell, Friends of Casco Bay staff members who provided data on nutrient pollution that showed the need for the bill, and by Representative Herbert Adams, who sponsored the legislation.

The DEP will solicit input and information for a report to be submitted to the State Legislature by January 31, 2008, which will recommend actions for establishing nutrient standards for Casco Bay. The Governor said, "This important resolve continues our efforts to protect our coastal waters for years to come...The initial focus is the Casco Bay, but the work there will be a model for the entire Maine coastline."

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