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Contact:

Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper, 215-369-1188 x 102

Maya van Rossum Honored with “Woman of the Delaware Watershed” Award

Philadelphia, PA – Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper and leader of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, was honored at the 2018 PennFuture Celebrating Women in Conservation Awards. She was awarded as a “Woman of the Delaware Watershed” for her dedication and work protecting the watershed.

“I am grateful to the community that took the time to nominate me for this award and am honored to be recognized,” said van Rossum. “This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network. Working with communities throughout the watershed we have achieved critical protections for our River, its watershed and the communities that depend upon and appreciate our water resources and healthy environments. This award is a testament to all the good work we have accomplished together.”

Serving as the Delaware Riverkeeper since 1996, van Rossum champions the rights of the River, its communities, and the environment. Under her leadership, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network has become a leading environmental organization with the ability to provide effective advocacy, implement cutting edge monitoring projects, and enforce compliance with environmental laws.

Author of the recently released book *The Green Amendment: Securing our Right to a Healthy Environment*, she champions constitutional amendments preserving environmental rights for current and future generations. Van Rossum was a lead petitioner in the *Robinson Township, Delaware Riverkeeper Network, et al vs Commonwealth of Pennsylvania* case that breathed legal life into Pennsylvania’s environmental rights amendment. She is now seeking to secure constitutional provisions in every state in the nation to protect environmental rights as inalienable rights with the same level of protection we give other fundamental rights, such as the right to free speech and freedom of religion.

The event will take place on April 19 at the Independence Seaport Museum (211 S. Columbus Blvd. Philadelphia, PA) beginning at 6:30pm.

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Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN) is a nonprofit membership organization working throughout the four states of the Delaware River Watershed including Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and New York. DRN provides effective environmental advocacy, volunteer monitoring programs, stream restoration projects, public education, and legal enforcement of environmental protection laws.

DELAWARE RIVERKEEPER NETWORK
925 Canal Street, Suite 3701
Bristol, PA 19007
Office: (215) 369-1188
fax: (215) 369-1181
drm@delawareriverkeeper.org
www.delawareriverkeeper.org