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The Delaware Riverkeeper to Present about Environmental Rights at Rider University

Lawrenceville, NJ – Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper and leader of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, will give a talk about environmental rights at Rider University at 7pm on April 3. During the talk, hosted by the Rebovich Institute for New Jersey Politics of Rider University, van Rossum will discuss the importance of constitutional environmental amendments and the status of proposed environmental rights protections in New Jersey.

New Jersey is poised to become the third state in the nation to recognize and protect the right to a healthy environment as an inalienable right on par with other fundamental freedoms like the right to free speech. While there is currently no language about the environment in the New Jersey Constitution, the proposed protections would add environmental rights to the state's bill of rights.

“The current proposed protections in New Jersey present a historic opportunity for the state to place the right to clean air, pure water, and a healthy environment on par with other freedoms such as the right to free speech and religious freedom,” van Rossum said. “My talk will highlight the importance of this protection and what it means for the people of New Jersey.”

Attendees will learn how a Green Amendment can improve environmental protection in the state of New Jersey. Author of a book, *The Green Amendment: Securing our Right to a Healthy Environment*, about the topic, van Rossum is a champion of environmental constitutional amendments. She was an original petitioner in the landmark *Robinson Township, Delaware Riverkeeper Network, et al v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania* case, which breathed new life into Pennsylvania's environmental rights amendment.

To learn more about the Green Amendment movement and Maya van Rossum, visit mayavanrossum.green.

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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.

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