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The Delaware Riverkeeper Presents at ANJEE Conference

Plainsboro Township, NJ – Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper and leader of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN), gave the keynote speech at the Alliance for New Jersey Environmental Education Winter Conference on January 19.

Over 100 people attended the speech titled “The Green Amendment: Securing our Right to a Healthy Environment,” which is also the name of van Rossum’s recent book. During her keynote address van Rossum discussed her role in the landmark “Robinson Township vs Commonwealth of Pennsylvania” case, argued in Pennsylvania Supreme Court, that strengthened Pennsylvania’s Environmental Rights Amendment guaranteeing the people of Pennsylvania the right to pure water, clean air, and a healthy environment.

DRN and van Rossum seek to secure Pennsylvania’s level of constitutional protection of environmental rights in states across the nation. New Jersey does not have a constitutional provision protecting the right to a healthy environment. However, as van Rossum discussed in her talk, one is currently advancing and in need of community support.

In her speech, van Rossum not only discussed the need for constitutional protection, she also explained how attendees could take action in their communities and the importance of environmental education.

“Educators have a key role to play in protecting our environment by teaching our young people the value of a healthy environment, and inspiring them to want to rise up and defend it from degradation. I am so honored to speaking with this group of educators and to share a new vision of the future for environmental protection,” said Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper.

“The Green Amendment” is currently available for purchase online and through the Delaware Riverkeeper Network.

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