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The Delaware Riverkeeper to Present about Environmental Rights at RootSkills Conference

Worcester, MA – Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper and leader of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, will hold a talk and signing about her book *The Green Amendment: Securing Our Right to a Healthy Environment* on December 7 at the RootSkills Conference.

The Green Amendment outlines the need for constitutional protection of our environmental rights. In 2013, van Rossum and her team won a watershed legal victory that not only protected Pennsylvania communities from ruthless frackers, but breathed legal life into the constitutional right of people in the state to a clean and healthy environment.

“We all need clean water, clean air, healthy foods grown in healthy soils, and healthy environments to sustain every aspect of our lives,” said van Rossum. “Unfortunately, these rights are not recognized in states across the nation, or at the federal level. Green Amendments protect the right to a healthy environment at the highest level, in the Bill of Rights section of a state’s Constitution. I believe we need a new national movement, a Green Amendment movement, that secures a constitutional right in every state across our nation. I look forward to sharing this vision with attendees, and encouraging them to embrace their environmental rights by joining me in demanding constitutional recognition and protection of environmental rights, just like we recognize and protect other rights we hold dear, like freedom of religion and free speech.”

Following this victory, van Rossum inaugurated the Green Amendment movement, dedicated to empowering every American community to mobilize for constitutional change. In *The Green Amendment*, van Rossum lays out an inspiring new agenda for environmental advocacy, one that will empower people.

This strategy allows people to recognize that they have a right to pure water, clean air, and a healthy environment, and one that allows people to claim and defend that right in the courts if necessary. *The Green Amendment* includes a powerful foreword authored by Mark Ruffalo, which supports the visionary constitutional path advocated for in the book.

The talk will be held on December 7 at 10:45am at Hogan Center at College of the Holy Cross, 1 College St, Worcester, MA.

To learn more about the book, and Maya van Rossum, visit mayavanrossum.green.

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