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NJSEA Meadowlands Research and Restoration Institute Receives Excellence In Public Service Award for Hackensack River Improvements

The New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority is pleased to announce that its Meadowlands Research and Restoration Institute (MRRI) received the Excellence In Public Service award from Hackensack Riverkeeper for its hard work in helping to significantly improve the river's health. The award was presented in October.

"MRRI staff's innovative scientific research studies, vigilant water quality monitoring and forward-thinking wetland restoration projects have played a vital role in the Hackensack River's environmental comeback over the decades," said Jill Hirsch, President and CEO of the NJSEA. "Hackensack Riverkeeper is a steadfast, ardent advocate for the waterway. The NJSEA greatly appreciates this recognition and is determined to build upon our successes in the years ahead."

MRRI's work on the Hackensack River includes flying drones annually to map changing landscapes, continuous water quality monitoring to track trends, and providing information to agencies and organizations about the health of the river and its current conditions. Working in partnership with the Hackensack Riverkeeper and its many volunteers, MRRI works to create more open public space, establish more habitats dominated by native species, and bring about a healthier and more resilient Meadowlands.

Among MRRI's numerous initiatives, research studies include measuring carbon storage capabilities for different tidal marsh habitats and assessing how sea-level rise is affecting Meadowlands marshes. MRRI uses autonomous acoustic recording units to better understand local ecosystems and the wildlife that use them and analyzes avian nesting population success in the Meadowlands. Its efforts to restore tidal marshes and other habitats are creating more biodiversity and improved resiliency for the surrounding urban landscape.

For more information on MRRI, visit https://meadowlandsrri.com/

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