

## Lake Berryessa Celebrates National Public Lands Day and Kicks Off the Every Kid in a Park Program



On Friday, Oct. 2, 2015, Bureau of Reclamation staff at Lake Berryessa welcomed elementary and college students to the Oak Shores Day Use Area where they planted trees in celebration of National Public Lands Day and to kick off the Every Kid in a Park Program. The students included 20 third, fourth, fifth and sixth graders from Pope Valley Elementary and 11 college students from the Biology Department of Pacific Union College.

During a bright, sunny morning, the students joined Lake Berryessa Park Rangers in distributing mulch and planting cottonwoods, sycamores and valley oaks at the Oak Shores Day Use Area's Acorn Beach. The young people look forward to enjoying the shade the new trees will provide when they return to the lake in the future.

The grade-school students' visit concluded with fishing along the shoreline of Lake Berryessa with Park Ranger Matt Otero and then obtaining area maps from Ranger Todd Eggert in order to find their way back. The teachers shared that the kids really enjoyed their visit and look forward to coming back.

Interpretive programs and events at Lake Berryessa tie into President Obama's *America's Great Outdoors* initiative (<http://interior.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/index.cfm>), which seeks to empower Americans to share in the responsibility to conserve, restore and provide better access to our lands and waters and leave a healthy, vibrant outdoor legacy for generations to come. Ranger-led activities also support the Department of the Interior's *Let's Move Outside* initiative ([www.letsmove.gov/lets-move-outside](http://www.letsmove.gov/lets-move-outside)), which was created to encourage children and their families to enjoy outdoor activities, which abound in every city, town and community. The President's *Every Kid in a Park* initiative ([www.everykidinapark.gov/](http://www.everykidinapark.gov/)) provides free access for every fourth grader and their family to 2,000 federally managed lands and waters. After 12 years, every school-age child will have been able to visit these public sites for free, inspiring the next generation to be stewards of our nation's shared natural and cultural heritage.



