

**For immediate release:**

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**Forest Aid: Angeles  
Volunteer Tree Planting in Station Fire Burned Area**



**Los Angeles-based TreePeople is partnering with the U.S. Forest Service to lead a massive volunteer tree-planting effort in the area of the Angeles National Forest burned by the Station Fire.**

**Why this is needed:** The national forests in the mountains surrounding Los Angeles provide vital life-support services to our city. The Angeles National Forest provides Los Angeles County with - among many other things - 35% of its drinking water and 72% of its open space. After devastating forest fires, it's vital to restore these ecosystems to full health. With burns increasing in number and severity, full restoration often requires human assistance to supplement what nature can do on its own, or what government can afford. This is where Forest Aid comes in.

**Who is impacted:** Through Forest Aid, a program with the United States Forest Service, TreePeople is bringing volunteers to replant the four national forests surrounding the Los Angeles metropolitan region: nearly 8,000 volunteers have participated since 2008. Devastating forest fires have a direct impact on the lives of L.A. residents. Replanting and caring for these forests protects them from future wildfire destruction, and enables them to once again function as Southern California's natural air and watersheds.

**What it provides:** Currently, TreePeople is in the midst of a three year effort to reforest areas of the Angeles National Forest that were burned in the 2009 Station Fire, the worst wildfire in LA County history. One quarter of the forest burned in that fire, and 11,000 acres burned too deep into the soil for natural seed regeneration and will not recover without human assistance. A portion of the acreage to be reforested is being planted by thousands of volunteers through Forest Aid. In 2011, 12,600 seedlings were planted by 143 of TreePeople's Angeles Restoration Supervisors and 1,500 volunteers. This spring an additional 10,000 seedlings will be planted by the volunteers.

**Major funding provided** by National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Southern California Gas Company, National Forest Foundation, and Southern California Edison. For further information visit <http://www.treepeople.org/angeles-nationalforest-restoration>.

**Volunteer tree plantings will be taking place throughout the spring. To register online, visit [www.forestaid.net](http://www.forestaid.net).**

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