

NEWS RELEASE DATE: JULY 26, 2018 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# **SCV Water Partners with TreePeople** to Host Generation Earth Workshop

## Next Generation Science Standards by Nature

On Thursday, July 12, thirty educators serving grades 6-12 in Los Angeles County, gathered to attend the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) by Nature workshop hosted by TreePeople and held at SCV Water. The workshop focused on showing teachers how to effectively use the outdoor classroom to teach various science and engineering disciplines.

The workshop helped educators understand and utilize the NGSS concept of "three-dimensional learning". This concept incorporates science and engineering practices, crosscutting concepts and disciplinary core ideas. Teaching concepts and core ideas together help students gain a thorough understanding and also more accurately reflect how science and engineering is practiced in the real world.

Loyda Ramos, education outreach manager for TreePeople said, "These workshops are a valuable resource that provides teachers with a project pathway and activities to guide students through environmental service learning projects."

Four of SCV Water's Conservation Education Specialists attended the workshop. They took away some new strategies to authentically engage students and improve the outdoor classroom experience.

"SCV Water's School Education Program focuses on age-appropriate, interactive activities focused on water conservation and water treatment," said Water Conservation Education Specialist Barbara Cawley. "The workshop helped me learn how to connect classwork to tangible life experiences."

More than 13,000 students attend SCV Water's School Education Program each year. Grades three through six and the high school Environmental Science summer workshops are taught at SCV Water and utilize the outdoor classroom to learn. Students benefit from the "three dimensional learning" by putting the concepts they learn immediately in to practice by conducting their own hands-on experiments.

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#### **About SCV Water:**

The Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water) is a full-service regional water agency located in the Santa Clarita Valley. SCV Water provides water service to business and residential customers – half are local groundwater supplies and the other half is imported from the State Water Project and other sources.

SCV Water was formed on January 1, 2018 and combines the former service areas of Castaic Lake Water Agency, Newhall County Water District, Santa Clarita Water Division and Valencia Water Company. Following a multi-year public engagement process, the agency was formed through Senate Bill 634 authored by Senator Scott Wilk and signed by Governor Jerry Brown on October 15, 2017. SCV Water was formed to enhance regional water management and reduce costs for local ratepayers.

More information can be found at www.YourSCVwater.com

### **About TreePeople:**

TreePeople is an environmental non-profit organization whose mission is to inspire, engage and support people to take personal responsibility for the urban environment, making it safe, healthy, fun and sustainable and to share our process as a model for the world.

More information can be found at: <a href="treepeople.org">treepeople.org</a>

#### **About Generation Earth:**

Generation Earth is an environmental education program of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, presented by TreePeople. Their goal is to educate and empower teens in Los Angeles County to be an active part of the solution in addressing environmental issues in their community.

Generation Earth offers do-it-yourself environmental projects that support youth to make a positive difference at school, at home, and in their world. Their program supports the needs of teachers, students, and the school community.

More information can be found at: generationearth.com

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