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Trees . . .

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planting native species, including California wild roses, valley oaks, box elders, cottonwoods, and dogwoods to help restore habitat in the Laguna park.

Among the workers Saturday morning was Patrick Nagle, age 13, who was there as part of his effort to achieve Eagle Scout rank in Sebastopol Boy Scout Troop 116.

"This place used to be a junk yard," marveled Nagle as he surveyed a new row of native willows running alongside the Laguna trail and former wastewater holding ponds.

Nagle was accompanied by his three brothers, Reuben, Sean, and Joseph Nagle, and their mom, Eileen Nagle.

"I was looking for an Eagle scout project," said Patrick Nagle, when asked how he happened to get involved with the

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Laguna tree planting effort. Part of his contribution was to recruit volunteers for Saturday's two-day planning celebration entitled "putting down roots."

Patrick enlisted members of his family, his scout troop and his church, he said Saturday as he patted soil around the base of a willow shoot.

Chris Carpenter, who also helped organize last weekend's work parties, said for some volunteers it was the third time

they'd arrived to help since the volunteer days began this year.

"People have a heart for this" said Carpenter. "It's our backyard."

On Friday, students from Pine Crest School and Willowside School showed up to help with the planting. Members of the Sebastopol Kiwanis Club, local explorer scouts, and a neighborhood group from Cotati also volunteered helping hands.

The tree planting and other work being done this fall has been made possible by a contribution from retired Sebastopol contractor Emmett Blincoe, who donated \$200,000 to the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation in memory of his late wife, Loretta.

Another planting effort is scheduled for Saturday, December 5, at 9 p.m. to plant 200 more trees and shrubs that need to be put in the ground this fall.

"We want to do a final push" to complete this year's phase of the Laguna park implementation that includes an entry arbor, kiosk, and viewing deck, said Sebastopol Planning Director Kenyon Webster.