CELEBRATE DÍA DEL RÍO AT RIO BOSQUE

The 8th annual Día del Río takes place **Saturday**, **October 19**. Join us at Rio Bosque Wetlands Park to celebrate. Día del Río is a citizen-led event organized by the Rio Grande/Río Bravo Basin Coalition. On this special day, communities throughout the basin hold activities to celebrate the rich diversity of the basin and draw public attention to its rivers, groundwater and wildlife.

At Rio Bosque, our celebration also happens to be our next workday. We'll meet at 9 a.m. at the bridge crossing Riverside Canal (see box below). A variety of Park-improvement activities – trail layout, salt-cedar removal, trash clean-up, mulch spreading – await you. On Día del Río, enjoy Rio Bosque and help care for it at the same time. See you there!

Rio Bosque restoration team in action; August 17, 2002

RESTORATION REPORT

Thanks to El Paso County Water Improvement

enjoyed a 2nd consecutive year with water at the Park during spring and summer. Our cottonwoods and willows are a lot taller now, and the vegetation bordering the water channels and wetland cells is a

lot lusher. The water also allowed us to irrigate a native grass plot consistently through the summer. With jackrabbits fenced out of this area, the grasses really took off.

Volunteers continue to play a big role in our restoration activities. On August 17, Cub Scouts from Pack 209 and Jr. Girl Scouts from Troop 424 planted honey mesquites along the main Park trail (see photo). And on September 7, Girl Scouts from Troop 27 spread wood chips on several soft and dusty road segments. Thanks go to these valuable members of our restoration team for work well done.

New

TOUR

9m.eon Sa,Dc. 7 Bds 3-5 p.m. Sun., Dec. 15 Introductory

The meeting place is a bridge crossing Riverside Canal. To get there from I-10, take Americas Ave. (Loop 375) to Pan American Dr., turn left onto Pan American and travel 1.5 miles to the bridge. Please be prompt.

kiosks and repaired the fence along the Park's south boundary. The next big change: construction of the initial visitor center. The Planning and Construction Section of UTEP's Facilities Services Department is now putting the finishing touches on the project