

**ATRIUM
HORTICULTURE THERAPY
PROGRAM
CURRICULUM**



GOAL:

Participants of this active treatment program will develop basic pre-vocational skills within the areas of self-help, daily living and work skill ability.

OBJECTIVE:

Each participant will perform the skills of basic landscaping and flower/vegetable gardening utilizing the concepts of peer mentoring, adaptive supports and staff supervision within a creative nurturing sensory environment.

Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities



Program Description



BASIC LANDSCAPING:

***Within this curriculum component, each participant will assess and maintain an area for modification and construct simple projects such as raised flower bed containers, annual/perennial layout design and general yard/garden maintenance.**



FLOWER/ VEGETABLE GARDENING:

***Within this curriculum component, each participant will learn the basic knowledge of plant growth and maintenance and will be provided the opportunity to nurture growth from potted seeds and established plants.**

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Currently, there are four location sites of active participation for Horticulture Therapy throughout the community as described below:

1. TOWLER ROAD COMMUNITY GARDEN

Participants will be provided the opportunity to not only enrich their own potential of personal growth through the empowerment of self-determination/social development skill training but to also be an integral contributing asset within the community which they live as their ability allows them to do so. Among these opportunities is "The Greene County Community Garden" located on Towler Road in Xenia, Ohio. Each participant will be closely monitored and assisted by supervising staff as needed. The "harvest of our crop", during fall, will be donated to select social service programs throughout Greene County, i.e. Children Services; Food Pantry; Domestic Violence; etc.

2. JAMES RANCH PARK

Participants will be provided an opportunity to experience one of the many exciting aspects of Horticultural Therapy utilizing a hands-on approach actively working as a volunteer "Greenhouse Helper" at the James Ranch Park located in Xenia, Ohio. Each participant will be provided with staff supervision to assist and nurture their daily living skills within the areas of landscape design, basic knowledge of plant growth/care, gardening safety and the opportunity to increase their social skill development within the areas of community integration.

3. BRUSHROW PROJECT

The purpose of this project is to facilitate an agency collaboration that will provide each Atrium participant the opportunity for involvement in pre-vocational skill training within their community. This collaboration also involves the opportunity to develop/promote an effective peer mentoring partnership with the Greene County Career Center. The various aspects of this project is designed to encompass an effective concept of peer mentoring, enhanced development of daily living/work adjustment skills and an increased awareness of self within the community.

4. THE SERENITY GARDEN

This is an on-site horticulture activity located on the grounds adjacent to the Atrium facility on 121 Fairground Road in Xenia, Ohio. At this site, participants are actively engaged in a habilitative pre-vocational experience of garden maintenance/beautification within a relaxed therapeutic environment. The purpose of this site is to assist each participant to develop a creative awareness of self in regards to leisure, recreation and relaxation through sound, texture, color, aroma and the stimulation of visual creativity while also providing a habilitation work skill experience in horticulture therapy. This

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location also provides an area of raised enabling beds for those who need to be accommodated with wheelchair access.



***Note: The duration of active participation for Horticulture Therapy lasts throughout the growing season with vegetable harvesting (pending its growth success) concluding late summer or early fall.**

Progress performance will be made available for each consumer upon request of an assigned Education and Training Specialist as deemed applicable.

ALL ASPECTS of services provided will be monitored closely under staff supervision

(If you have any questions/concerns, please, feel free to call [937] 562 4200 and ask for Bill)

William H. Ford, Sr.
Education & Training Specialist

***Please, note:**

If you would like to know more about select areas of Atrium program services for Greene County adults with Developmental Disabilities, please, contact Jeanne Turner, Program Manager @ (937) 562 4200, #135.