

History of the name: Soldiers of the Soil

During World War I the federal government sponsored a national program called the United States School Garden Army (USSGA) which encouraged urban and suburban youth to garden for Uncle Sam. This program and the nation's youth were viewed as vital to achieving the nation's goals and security during war time— they were Soldiers of the Soil.

www.ca4h.org/files/1227.pdf



Soldiers of the Soil Juvenile Diversion Program Youth Garden Project

**Under the Guidance of
Euclid Police Department
Community Policing Unit**



545 East 222nd Street
Euclid, Ohio 44123
216-731-1234
Emergency 9-1-1
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Soldiers of the Soil: EPD Youth Garden Project

Mission

The mission of the Soldiers of the Soil Project is to offer the participants of the juvenile diversion program an opportunity to learn about the positive elements of giving to the community such as: providing food for those without, providing flowers for those who suffer, and how giving to others can be more rewarding than receiving.

Harvested vegetables from the Soldiers of the Soil program are donated to the Euclid Hunger Center. Flowers are made into simple bouquets and then donated to patients at Euclid Hospital. Small, narrow vases are needed to continue our project, so those interested in donating vases can contact Euclid Community Policing at 289-8449.

Goals

Through gardening, participants in the diversion program will experience positive relationships with garden volunteers who interact and teach gardening skills and offer information on healthy eating. The participants learn how to work with tools and their hands to prepare and maintain a vegetable and flower garden. Life skills such as improving focus, eye-hand coordination, remaining calm, asking and answering questions, and increasing self-esteem are achieved.

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Our Garden

The Soldiers of the Soil garden is located in Euclid's Community Garden at Memorial Park. The participants are responsible for preparing the soil, planting seeds, pulling weeds, and harvesting vegetables and flowers for donation.

