

Public Relations Section, Sakura City Hall, ☎(043) 484-1111, Ext.2275 or
☎(043) 484-6103; Fax: (043) 486-8720; E-mail: koho@city.sakura.lg.jp; URL: http://www.city.sakura.lg.jp

This is a free monthly English newsletter for foreign residents carrying excerpts from the Japanese newsletter published twice a month by the city of Sakura. Unless otherwise indicated, inquiries over the telephone or at the facilities are handled only in Japanese. If you do not speak Japanese, please have someone who speaks Japanese with you when you make inquiries. Inquiries in English can be answered generally on Mondays and Tuesdays through *Koh'hoh-ka* (the Public Relations Section) of the Sakura City Hall. (Printed on recycled paper.)



SAKURA-NO-AKI-MATSURI



Sakura Autumn Festival
15:00 to 22:00
October 12 to October 14

The Sakura Autumn Festival is the biggest cultural event of our city. *Mikoshi* (lavishly decorated portable shrines) and *Dashi* (traditional festival floats), some of which are historical assets dating back to the *Edo* era (the samurai period), are carried or pulled by residents clad in happi coats in a procession along the designated route of

the old Sakura castle town. Please check the schedule below.

Fri. October 12: *Oh-mikoshi* (A great portable shrine) comes out from *Makata-Jinja Shrine* at about 15:00. *Dashi* (Parade

Float) held by each town is carried around the old part of Sakura City, surrounded by dancing people from each town.

Sat. October 13: All the *Dashis* move to the event site of the festival and will make a procession one after another along the *Shin-machi* street.

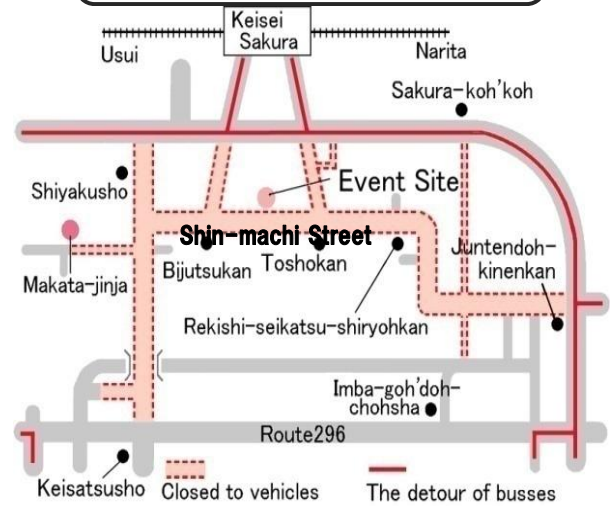
Sun. October 14: *Dashis* will be carried around the festival site. *Oh-mikoshi* returns into *Makata-Jinja Shrine* at about 21:30.

Many vendors will be setting up stalls selling food and drinks, souvenirs and local merchandise, games and so forth to entertain and cater for a large crowd of spectators during the 3-day festivities. You just couldn't pass up the opportunity to enjoy this historic event!

(Note) As it happens every year, traffic jams are foreseen around the festival site, so you are requested to refrain from visiting the festival by car, bicycle, or motorcycle. Roads leading to the festival site and the parade route will be closed to cars during the 3 festive opening hours.

Call Sakura-shi *Kankoh-Kyoh'kai* (Tourism Association), ☎486-6000 for further information.

CLOSED TO VEHICLES
15:00 - 22:00
Oct.12 to Oct.14



- Shiyakusho = City Hall
- Keisatsusho = Police Station
- Bijutsukan = Art Museum
- Sakura-koh'koh = Sakura Senior High School



DISASTER PREPARATORY DRILL
Sunday, October 21 at Ino Junior High School

During a large disaster such as an earthquake, life lines such as gas, electricity, drinking water services might be interrupted and roads might be closed. Possible life-saving activities by disaster prevention organizations can be very limited. In such a case, it will be very important that each and every one of us cooperates each other from each standpoint. A preparatory drill allows us to prepare against damage and minimize losses by life-saving and fire fighting activities. The City of Sakura will conduct a post-disaster preparatory drill **9:00 to 12:30, Sunday, October 21 at Ino Junior High School**, focusing on emergency relief/treatment activities, initial fire-fighting training, and how to operate an evacuation center. The drill will be held rain or shine, but subject to cancellation in a stormy weather. We look forward to everyone's participation. There is no parking, so please refrain from coming by a personal car.

TELEPHON SERVICE STARTING
TO REPLAY THE CITY'S COMMUNITY WIRELESS BROADCAST

Now you can check the content of wireless broadcast by phone even when you miss a disaster-prevention broadcast, for up to 24 hours. The toll-free number for this new service is: ☎0120-711-508. Call *Boh'sai-boh'han-ka* (Disaster Prevention & Security Section), ☎484-6131 for further information.



KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT APPLICATION



Application for April 2013 enrolment to be accepted soon

Public kindergartens accept applications for ① **4 year-old children** (born between April 2, 2008 and April 1, 2009) for 2-year education, and ② **5 year-old children** (born between April 2, 2007 and April 1, 2008) for 1-year education. Application and registration will be accepted at the same time from **Monday, November 5 through Friday, November 9**. Please take the enrolling child with you when you make an application. During the above application period, each kindergarten provides nursing services. Make sure to bring your *in-kan* (family seal) and *juh'min-hyoh* (certificate of residence) containing information on the relationships of all family members to the householder. These certificates are available at *Shimin-ka* (the Citizens Section), City Hall.

PUBLIC KINDERGARTENS	ADDRESSES	☎
Sakura Yoh'chien	934, Kaburagi-machi	486-1533
Wada Yoh'chien	59-6, Naoya	498-1571
Yatomi Yoh'chien	145, Iwatomi-machi	498-0603

Private kindergartens accept applications for ① **3-year old children** (born between April 2, 2009 and April 1, 2010), ② **4-year old children** (born between April 2, 2008 and April 1, 2009), and ③ **5-year old children** (between April 2, 2007 and April 1, 2008). Application guidelines and forms will be distributed **on and after Monday, October 15**, at the respective kindergartens. Submit a fully-completed application form to the kindergarten **on/after Thursday, November 1**. Call each kindergarten to learn application procedures. Call *Gakumu-ka* (School Affairs Section), ☎484-6186 for inquiries.

PRIVATE KINDERGARTENS	ADDRESSES	☎	PRIVATE KINDERGARTENS	ADDRESSES	☎
Shizu Yoh'chien	1362, Ino	487-6717	Usui Tampopo Yoh'chien	1-10-7, Ohji-dai	461-5105
Sakura Yoh'chien	2-23-19, Nishi-Shizu	487-1747	Sakura Johnan Yoh'chien	1-5, Kaburagi-machi	484-0551
Shizu Wakaba Yoh'chien	874, Kami-Shizu	487-1787	Sennari Yoh'chien	3-11-15, Sennari	485-3755
Odake Yoh'chien	795-1, Odake	487-1784	Jikoh Yoh'chien	54, Motomachi	484-2444
Usui Yoh'chien	2435, Usuida	487-5462	Sakura Kurumi Yoh'chien	551-1, Ishikawa	485-8425

HEALTH CHECKS BEFORE ENTERING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

For children born between April 2, 2006 and April 1, 2007



“Notice for a Health Checkup for children entering elementary school next April” has been sent to each householder of relevant children’s family. Children born between April 2, 2006 and April 1, 2007 are required to go through health checks before entering elementary school in April 2013. The health check schedules are as shown below. Please call *Shidoh-ka* (the School Guidance Section), ☎484-6193 in case you have not received the notice.

- (Note)
- The health check should be taken at the school one plans to enroll
 - The time schedule is indicated on the “Notice for a Health Checkup”
 - During the checkup, a lecture meeting on home education for parents is to be held.

Elementary School	DATE	Elementary School	DATE	Elementary School	DATE	Elementary School	DATE
Sakura	Oct. 23	Shizu	Oct. 11	Ino	Nov. 20	Aosuge	Nov. 06
Uchigoh	Oct. 25	Shimo-Shizu	Oct. 25	Sakura-Higashi	Nov. 08	Terasaki	Oct. 16
Usui	Nov. 27	Minami-Shizu	Nov. 15	Nishi-Shizu	Oct. 19	San'noh	Nov. 21
In'n'an	Oct. 23	Negoh	Nov. 27	Odake	Nov. 20	Someino	Nov. 13
Chiyoda	Nov. 13	Wada	Nov. 08	Manodai	Oct. 18	Shirogane	Nov. 15
Kami-Shizu	Oct. 24	Yatomi	Nov. 28	Ohji-dai	Oct. 31		

Useful Information Sources

About Japan: NHK World

News and information on Japan’s politics, business, culture, entertainment and more.

<http://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/index.html>

About Chiba Prefecture: Chiba International Information Square

Presented by Chiba Prefectural Government.

<http://www.pref.chiba.lf.jp/kokusai/english/information/index/html>

Sakura International Festival

12:30 to 15:30, Saturday, October 20

Sakura International Exchange Foundation (SIEF) offers an international exchange party at *Shizu Community Center* for foreign and Japanese residents around Sakura. Foreign residents are especially welcome. Enjoy friendly exchanges and casual talks, folk dancing from the Andes Region, Trick or Treating for Halloween candies, Tai Chi, a lottery game, and lots more. Also, you could shop at carnival booths and a fair trade corner. Participation is free of charge except for British Cooking (11:00 to 13:30, for junior-high-age and above, prior application is required. ¥200). Call SIEF, ☎484-6326 for more information.



INFLUENZA VACCINATION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

A shot before December is highly recommended



Influenza vaccination for senior citizens is available from October 1 at medical institutions in Sakura City. To help you avoid the peak flu season, an early shot is highly recommended because it takes about two weeks for antibodies to develop in your body.

Period Monday, October 1, 2012 to Monday, December 31, 2012. (Please make an appointment with the institution in advance.)

Vaccination sites Vaccination cooperative medical institutions in Sakura City (Please make sure you inform *Kenkoh Kanri Center* by phone if you are going to get a shot at institutions out of the City.)

Eligible persons

- 1) Citizens who are 65 years of age or above. Vaccination slips were sent out to applicable persons in late September. Please fill in the slip and bring it to the medical institution.
- 2) Citizens who are 60-64 years of age and possess a "First Degree Identification Booklet for the Physically Handicapped" because of heart, kidney, or respiratory diseases. Please call *Kenkoh Kanri Center* to get a vaccination.

Number of shots needed One shot during the scheduled period

Cost 1,000 yen. (Free for citizens on welfare if a prior application is made along with presentation of a Welfare Recipient Certificate. Please apply for a Welfare Recipient Certificate to *Syakai-Fukushi-ka* (Social Welfare Section) in advance.)

Call *Kenkoh Kanri Center*, ☎485-6711 for inquiries.

COSMOS FESTIVAL

~ Sat. October 6 to Sun. October 28 ~

The season for the annual Cosmos Festival has come. During the festival, Sakura *Furusato Hiroba* Park beside *Imba-Numa* Lake will be flooded with roughly 500 thousand Cosmoses surrounding the wind mill. Feel the cool autumn breeze in a sea of pink! You can also rent bicycles (¥500) and enjoy picking cosmoses (¥100 for one rootstock). On October 20 & 21, local products will be sold at the festival site. Call Sakura City Kankoh Kyohkai (tourist association), ☎486-6000 for inquiries.



10:00 to 14:00, Sun. October 21, Obukai Cosmos Festival will also be held at *Obukai Tokimeki-mura*, the field along *Kami-taguri-gawa* river underneath the athletic field of *Sakura-Nishi* Senior High School. Local hospitality welcomes you rain or shine. Call Mano, ☎487-3369 for further information.

FULLY ENJOY A TASTY AUTUMN DAY !!

Agricultural Festival on the *Kusabue-no-oka* hills

Sat. October 6 to Mon. October 8

With bountiful events, *Kusabueno-oka Hills* will be full of autumn delight especially during the festival. Main events include: Making sweets with rice flour (Sun. Oct. 7 only), Cooking workshop using local vegetables, Butter making, and lots more. For the activities listed above, a prior reservation is necessary (extra fee required).



Peanut digging: 11:00 & 14:00, Saturdays, Sundays and National Holidays until mid-October. ¥250 for 5 rootstocks. (No reservation necessary.)

Sweet-potato digging: 11:00 & 14:00, Saturdays, Sundays and National Holidays until early November. ¥330 for 3 rootstocks. (No reservation necessary.)

The park is open from 9:00 to 17:00 daily (no admission after 16:00). Admission fee to the park is ¥300 for children of junior high & elementary school age, ¥150 for preschool children, and ¥400 for others. Call *Kusabueno-oka Hills*, ☎485-7821 for further information.

POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end of August 2012, the Japanese population of Sakura was 176,020 (87,037 males and 88,983 females) in 72,072 households. Registered foreign residents accounted for 2,003. The combined population of Sakura City was 178,023.

HEALTH CHECKS FOR CHILDREN



Contacts: Kenkoh Kanri Center (Health Management Center) ☎485-6711; Seibu Hoken Center (Seibu Health & Welfare Center) ☎463-4181; Nambu Hoken Center (Nambu Health & Welfare Center) ☎483-2812.

AGES OF CHILDREN	Oct '12	TIME	PLACE
Health consultation for children of 4 months born in May, 2012	Tue, 09	9:30–10:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
		13:30–14:30	
	Wed, 31	9:30–10:30	Seibu Hoken Center
<i>Mogu-mogu</i> (munching) Class for children of 8 months born in January, 2012	Wed, 10	9:30– 9:45	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Fri, 12		Seibu Hoken Center
	Fri, 19		Nambu Hoken Center
For 18-month-old children born in April, 2011	Tue, 16	13:15–14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Fri, 26		Seibu Hoken Center
For 3-year-old children born in April, 2009	Wed, 17	13:15–14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Thu, 25		Seibu Hoken Center
Dental check for children born in April or October, 2010, or in October, 2009 *On the days with * mark, consultation on Speech Development is also available.	Thu, 04*	13:30–14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Wed, 24		Seibu Hoken Center
	Thu, 18*		
	Mon, 22		
	Thu, 11*		

FREE ANTENATAL CLASS

For expectant mothers to have a baby between October 2012 and March 2013, a free antenatal class “Mom’s class” will be held:

9:00 to 14:20, Tue, October 30
At Seibu Hoken Center

The class provides instruction on how to lead a healthy life during pregnancy, including nutrition and oral hygiene education. Parents in their first pregnancy have priority. Please call the center to sign up.

CONSULTATION WITH PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE FOR ALL AGES

13:30 to 15:30, Fri, October 05: Kenkoh Kanri Center

9:30 to 11:30, Mon, October 29: Seibu Hoken Center

9:30 to 11:30, Tue, October 02: Nambu Hoken Center

Consultation on health check results and how to live a healthier life, nutritional guidance, and health check including blood-pressure measurement can be provided. Application required.

SUKU-SUKU HATTATSU SOHDAN

Child development consultation for preschoolers (*Suku-suku Hattatsu Sohdan*) is available:

9:00 to 12:00, Thu, October 4
At Kenkoh Kanri Center

If you feel distressed about your child’s developmental or behavioral disorders, such as attention deficit disorder, do not suffer alone. Application required.

TELEPHONE COUNSELING WITH PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE OR NUTRITIONIST

Available at each center, 8:30-17:15,
Monday through Friday

Dental hygienist or speech therapist is also available at the Kenkoh Kanri Center.

HOLIDAY & NIGHTTIME EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Always be sure to bring your health insurance certificate!



Nighttime Emergency – Physician & Dentist: 19:00-21:45 at Kenkoh Kanri Center ☎485-6711

Pediatrics – for children under 16 years Day & Night, at the Kenkoh Kanri Center

☎485-3355

For diseases in the acute & early stage:
Monday through Saturday,
19:00-6:00 (next morning).

On Sundays, public holidays, and year-end/
new year holidays (12/29-1/3):
9:00-16:45 & 19:00-6:00

Surgeon, Physician, ENT doctor & Dentist during Holidays & Nighttime

Consultation with doctors will be available during the hours shown below at the doctor’s office who is on duty in a rotation system.

Call ☎484-2516 to learn the doctor on duty:

●Surgeon: 9:00-16:30, 19:00-21:45

●Physician, Dentist: 9:00-16:30

●ENT doctor: 19:00-21:45

