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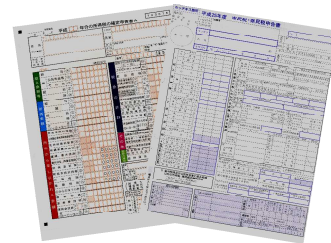
This is a free monthly English newsletter for foreign residents containing excerpts from the Japanese newsletter published twice a month by the City of Sakura. Unless otherwise indicated, inquiries over the telephone or at the facilities are handled only in Japanese. If you do not speak Japanese, please 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) at Sakura City Hall.

KAKUTEI SHINKOKU (TAX RETURN FILING FOR 2012)

All residents in Japan are required to pay taxes levied according to the amount of personal income, which mainly consists of income tax (national tax) and resident tax (local tax). As for the income tax, taxpayers shall calculate the income tax amount by themselves with respect to the total income earned from January 1 through December 31 of 2012 and file a return form to the District Director of Tax Office to adjust any excess or shortage in tax payment withheld based on the estimation from their monthly salary. This procedure is called *Kakutei Shinkoku*, or the filing of the final return. Your 2012 final tax return form is accepted between:

Monday, February 18 and Friday, March 15.

During this period, assistance for completing the form and its filing is provided at three locations. Please refer to page 3 for the detailed schedule.



INCOME TAX - Call Narita Tax Office, ☎0476-28-5151 for inquiries

You need to file your tax return if any of the below is applicable to you:

- Sum of employment income receipts > ¥20 million
- Received employment income from only one payer, and
The total of various kinds of income (other than employment income) > ¥200,000
- Received employment income from two or more payers, and
The total of (employment income receipts excluding employment income subject to year-end adjustment) +
(various kinds of income other than employment/retirement income) > ¥200,000
- Income tax was not withheld from your salary each month
- Others (For example, if you received income from sources abroad, filing might be required depending on your resident status)

RESIDENT TAX - Call *Kazei-ka* (City Hall Taxation Section), ☎484-6115

In Sakura, the resident tax is comprised of municipal resident tax (city tax) and prefectural resident tax. Residents of Sakura as of January 1, 2013, with income earned in Japan during the past 12 months from January through December 2012, need to file a resident tax return form with the City Tax Section at the Sakura City Hall. However, you are not required to do so if any of the below is applicable to you:

- Plan to or have already filed an income tax return with the Narita Tax Office
 - A withholding statement has already been submitted by the payer to the City's Taxation Section and had no other income sources
 - Listed as a dependent family member on the tax return form or on the salary payment report of any other member in the same household
- The tax return forms will be sent in early February to those who filed their tax return last year. First-time tax payers are required to visit the City Tax Section or city branch offices to obtain the form. For details, please refer to **"2012 INCOME TAX GUIDE FOR FOREIGNERS,"**

<http://www.nta.go.jp/tetsuzuki/shinkoku/shotoku/tebiki2012/pdf/43.pdf>

The 5th Sakura Castle Town Hina Tour

Hina Dolls displayed from February 10 to March 3

Now that the undergrounding of power lines has completed, *Shinmachi* and other quaint historic streets have become more attractive. At more than 40 shops and facilities along these streets, beautiful sets of traditional Hina Dolls are displayed from Sunday, February 10 to Sunday, March 3. "Hina Tour wearing a Kimono," live music, and a big lottery sale are planned during the period. On March 2 and 3, various special events are to be held. Call NPO Sakura Ichiri-zuka (open 10:00 to 16:00, Wednesday through Sunday), ☎483-3535 for details.



Congratulatory Money for Single-parent Families

The city of Sakura presents a congratulatory monetary gift to single-parent families if they have children who enter elementary, junior, or senior high school, or start to work after completing junior high school study in April 2013. Also, families where people other than parents are bringing up the children are entitled to this gift of ¥10,000 per child. In January, application forms were sent out to the households which are recipients of Child Rearing Allowances or Medical Expense Subsidies for Single Parent Households. Please contact *Jidoh-Seishoh'nen-ka* (Children and Youth Section), ☎484-6140 if you have not received the application form yet, or in case you are not receiving those allowances. Application form must be submitted no later than **Thursday, February 29** without fail, since any delay results in no pay.



RESIDENTS' DISASTER MUTUAL AID INSURANCE FOR 2013

Application is accepted from Friday, February 1



The city of Sakura sponsors an inexpensive insurance program (*Sakura-shi Saigai Kyoh'sai*) that offers limited coverage for personal injuries, death, and house damage (for residential buildings only) caused by fires, lightning strikes, gas explosions, rainstorms, tornadoes, floods, etc. Damage caused by earthquakes, snowfalls, hailstorms, or decrepitude of houses are excluded. Also, damage of decorations, electric appliances, ancillary facilities, and store buildings are not covered. Heads of the households who are registered as Sakura citizens (including foreign residents) are eligible to enroll in this program.

BENEFITS Benefits of this insurance will be paid separately from your other insurance.

★ **HOUSE DAMAGE:** The maximum benefit for total loss by fire or complete collapse of houses: ¥1.2 million for owner-occupied house; ¥0.6 million for rented house. Lower benefits will be given for partial losses.

★ **PERSONAL INJURIES & DEATHS:** The maximum benefit is ¥1.2 million for death and lower for injuries.

PREMIUMS ¥1,000 per household/year regardless of the insurance

DURATION OF INSURANCE Coverage will start on April 1, 2013 and end on March 31, 2014.

HOW TO ENROLL Program leaflets and application forms in Japanese are available at *Boh'sai-boh'han-ka* (Disaster Prevention Section), city branch offices, and city service centers. Applications accepted at any of these offices, but no postal mail is acceptable. Call *Boh'sai-boh'han-ka*, ☎484-6131 or visit the following website for further information: <http://www.city.sakura.lg.jp/0000004911.html> (Japanese only).

CITY SUBSIDY FOR COMPOSTERS & WASTE REDUCTION MACHINES

Be eco-friendly and protect the environment by using waste reduction equipment. For residents of Sakura, the City offers a subsidy for the purchase of home composters and/or raw garbage reduction machines (drying or fermenting system). To be granted the subsidy when purchasing one, bring your ID and *hanko* seal to one of the shops prescribed below, and fill in the form at the shop so that you can get a discount by the amount of the subsidy. Please check eligibility and subsidy amount for each system shown below:

Eligibility and Amount of the Subsidy

Eligible Equipment				Amount of Subsidy			
- Composter (C) - Fermenting reduction machine (F)				¥2,000 or one third of the purchase price, whichever is lower (Limited to two times in a fiscal year for one household)			
- Electric food waste reduction machine (E)				¥10,000 or one fourth of the purchase price, whichever is lower (Limited to one time in a fiscal year for one household)			
District	Shop Name	Tel	Products*	District	Shop Name	Tel	Products*
Sakura	Ishii Sho'kai	484-0768	E	Shizu	Tanaka chemist's	487-2811	F
Usui	Ebihara Kanamono Hardware	487-3045	C			462-3700	
Negoh	Ohkawa Denki Sakura	485-8678	E		Ozawa Denki	487-0837	E
	Imba Nokyo	485-6115	C		Arigataya Beauty Parlor	460-6191	F
	Beisia Denki Sakura	481-0511	E		Kojima New Yukarigaoka	464-2611	E
Shizu	I.S. Jyuh'ken	487-8129	E		Nagashima Denki	461-1041	E

* Products purchased at shops other than the above are not eligible for the subsidy

* Products over ¥80,000 or disposers are not eligible

* No returns or refunds can be made after purchase

Call *Haikibutsu-taisaku-ka* (Garbage Control Section), ☎484-6149 for inquiries.

Kusabue-no-Oka Hills

~ Setsubun Festival ~

● Bean-throwing event

11:00 & 14:00, Sunday, February 3

Sweets, various exchange tickets and other prizes are thrown along with roasted beans!



~ Hina-dolls workshops ~

● Copper enameling

9:30, Tuesday, February 26

Up to 10 persons, ¥1,500

● Hina-doll glass painting

10:00, Saturday, February 23

Up to 20 persons, ¥800 (Please prepare a design drawing)



The above workshops are for adults, but can be accompanied by children. Application required. Admission fee to Kusabue-no-Oka needs to be paid separately.

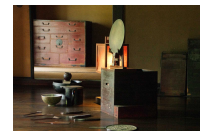
Call *Bunka-ka* (the Culture Section) ☎484-6191 for further information.

Special Opening of Kyu-Hotta-Tei & Buke-Yashiki

February 11 (National Holiday)

Open from 9:30 to 16:30 (Last admission at 16:00)

Kyu-Hotta-tei On the special opening day, rooms usually closed to the public can be viewed (the gatekeeper's lodge, the study-room wing, and the 2nd floor of the living room wing). Admission fees are ¥310 for adults and ¥150 for students.

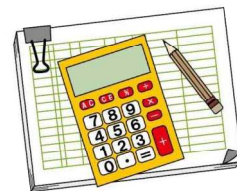


Buke-yashiki On February 11, visitors are allowed to enter *Kyu-Kawara-ke*, which is usually closed to the public. Admission fees are ¥210 for adults and ¥100 for students. (Free for children up to junior high school age on Saturdays.)



ASSISTANCE IN FILING YOUR TAX RETURN

You could get tax refunds as deductions for costly medical expenses, housing loans, social insurance premiums, etc., upon your declaration. The table below shows where and when you could file or get assistance on tax return for 2012. Filing can be done also by postal mail to the City Hall Tax Section (**resident tax** forms only, 97 Kairinji-machi, Sakura-shi, 〒285-8501) or Narita Tax Office (**income tax** forms only, 1-15 Karabe, Narita-shi, 〒286-8501). If you would like to receive assistance, but you do not quite understand Japanese, please take someone to interpret with you. Call City Hall Tax Section, ☎484-6115 (for **resident tax**) or Narita Tax Office, ☎0476 - 28 - 5151 (for **income tax**) for inquiries.



Location	Date	Time	Service
Aeon Hall (2 nd floor on the Aeon Mall Narita, 24 Wing-Tsuchiya, Narita)	Through March 15 (except Sat, Sun & national holidays, Sunday special openings on February 24 and March 3)	9:00 to 16:00*	Assistance in preparing income tax return forms ⁽¹⁾
		9:00 to 17:00	Acceptance of income tax return forms ⁽¹⁾
Narita Tax Office	February 18 to March 15 (except Sat, Sun & national holidays)	8:30 to 17:00	Acceptance of income tax return forms ⁽¹⁾
Sakura City Hall Conference Room on the 6 th floor of the 1 st bldg.	February 18 to March 15 (except Sat & Sun)	9:00 to 15:00	Assistance in preparing income/resident tax return forms ⁽²⁾
	Sunday special openings on February 24 and March 10		Assistance in preparing resident tax return forms
Sakura City Hall 2 nd floor Lobby of the 1 st bldg.	February 18 to March 15 (except Sat & Sun)	9:00 to 17:00	Acceptance of income/resident tax return forms
	Sunday special openings on February 24 and March 10		Acceptance of resident tax return forms
City Branch Offices (including Shizu Branch)	Through March 15 (except Sat, Sun & national holidays)	8:30 to 17:15	Acceptance of resident tax return forms (no consultation available)
Shizu Branch Office	Sunday special openings on February 10, 24, and May 10	8:30 to 17:15	
City Services Centers (Sakura & Nishi-shizu)	Through March 15 (including Sat & Sun, except Monday & national holiday)	9:00 to 17:00	
Wada Furusato kan	February 19	9:30 to noon (Reception starts at 9:00)	Assistance in preparing resident tax return forms ⁽²⁾
Yatomi Community Center	February 20		

(1) Tax return forms for income tax, inheritance tax, etc.

(2) Assistance at the City Hall is limited to addressing the following matters;

- Resident tax (City tax and Prefectural tax) return
- Filing of medical expenses deduction from income tax
- Declaration by pensioners and who have not completed the year-end adjustment due to retirement or other reasons

* Between 12:00 and 13:00, you might be kept waiting longer because staffs take lunch breaks in turn.

- Those who suffered damages from the Great East Japan Earthquake are entitled to special tax treatment including special provision for deduction for casualty losses.
- Also, there are cases that the Great East Japan Earthquake-related donations between March 11, 2011 and December 31, 2013 deemed to be deductible. For detailed information, please contact Narita Tax Office.

FREE CONSULTATION FOR FOREIGN RESIDENTS

- Legal matter, divorce, accident, inheritance, labor problem -
Don't suffer alone!

Monday, February 4, 2013

Monday, March 4, 2013

13:00 to 16:00 (45 min. per person)



- ◆ Reservation required
- ◆ Interpreters available* on 10 days prior request
- ◆ At Chiba International Center
(5-minute walk from Kaihin Makuhari Station.)
14th Fl., Marive East, World Business Garden (WBG)
2-6, Nakase, Mihama-ku, Chiba

Contact: ☎297-0245, Fax:297-2753, E-mail: kudo@ccb.or.jp

Sakura City Museum of Art *Lupin III Exhibition*

February 2 – March 24

Marking the 40th anniversary of the start of the *Lupin III's* animated TV series, this exhibition shows its charms in both comic and animation works. Materials of "*Lupin III: Record of Observations of the East - Another Page*," the latest special TV program is exhibited for the first time, along with original comic arts and celluloid pictures by Monkey Punch!

POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end of December 2012, the Japanese population of Sakura was 175,969 (86,979 males and 88,990 females) in 72,199 households. Registered foreign residents accounted for 2,028. The combined population of Sakura City was 177,997.

HEALTH INFORMATION

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.



HEALTH CHECKS FOR CHILDREN			
AGES OF CHILDREN	FEBRUARY '13	TIME	PLACE
Health consultation for children of 4 months born in September, 2012	Fri, 22	9:30—10:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
		13:30—14:30	
	Fri, 15	9:30—10:30	Seibu Hoken Center
		13:30—14:30	
<i>Mogu-mogu</i> (munching) Class for children of 8 months born in May, 2012	Wed, 27	13:30—14:30	Nambu Hoken Center
	Wed, 13	9:30— 9:45	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Fri, 08		Seibu Hoken Center
	Wed, 27		Nambu Hoken Center
For 18-month-old children born in August, 2011	Mon, 25	13:15—14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Wed, 20		Seibu Hoken Center
For 3-year-old children born in August, 2009	Tue, 26	13:15—14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Thu, 21		Seibu Hoken Center
Dental check for children born In February or August, 2010, or in February, 2011 *On the day with * mark, consultation on Speech Development is also available.	Tue, 05*	13:30—14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Tue, 19		
	Thu, 07*		Seibu Hoken Center
	Fri, 22		
	Thu, 14*		Nambu Hoken Center

COUNSELING AND OTHER SERVICES

FREE ANTENATAL CLASS

-Application required-

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

Time & Date: 9:00 to 14:20

Thu. February 14

Place: Seibu Hoken Center

This class gives instruction on how to lead a healthy pregnancy life including mothers’ nutrition and dental hygiene, etc.

Mothers in their first pregnancy have priority.

Please call Seibu Hoken center to sign up.

SUKU-SUKU HATTATSU SOHDAN

-Application required-

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

9:00 to 12:00, Thu. February 7

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!

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE CONSULTATION

For all ages - Application required

13:30 to 15:30, Tue. Feb. 12: Kenkoh Kanri Center

9:30 to 11:30, Mon. Feb.18: 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.

TELEPHONE COUNSELING

with public health nurse or nutritionist

-For all ages-

Available at each center

8:30-17:15, Monday through Friday.

Dental hygienist and Speech therapist are also available at 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