

HELLO SAKURA

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

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR A DISASTER?

Bohsai Boh'han-ka (Crime Prevention & Disaster Management Section) ☎ 484-6131



In an event of disaster, early-stage cooperation among citizens is indispensable. Since effective disaster mitigation is possible only through daily efforts in normal times, let's prepare ourselves on the occasion of National Disaster Prevention Day (September 1). For the first step, please store emergency supplies and check safety measures for your family and neighbors.

➤ Recommended Anti-disaster Measures

Should an earthquake strike, staying indoors can be dangerous due to falling furniture and shattering glass. Also, if the doorways jammed shut, you might be trapped inside. Please make sure your home is structurally sound, remove the elements that would fall and hurt you, and check the following items to earthquake-proof your home!

- Drawers and Bookshelves: Place against the wall and apply clamps to secure the furniture to the wall
- Cabinets and Cupboards: Apply door stoppers to keep their doors closed
- Window glass: Apply shatterproof window films
- TV sets: Do not place on a shelf, chest or any other higher place and secure to the floor with clamps
- Room lights: Secure to the ceiling or walls using chains and clamps

➤ Check the Nearest Evacuation Center

All the elementary schools, junior high schools, and high schools in the City are designated as citizens' evacuation centers. Check and determine the evacuation center closest to your home and a primary and an alternative evacuation routes to the center with which you can avoid dangerous spots (power poles, bridges, concrete walls, etc.), after discussing with your family!

➤ Let's Prepare An Emergency Pack!

The following is an example list of items that should be included in your emergency pack...

- First-aid kit (bandage, disinfectant, household medicine, etc.)
- List of prescriptions and contacts for medical institutions, etc.
- Drugs and medical device currently in use (stoma appliances, dentures, canes, etc.)
- Domestic utensils for daily life (glasses, paper diapers, powdered milk, sanitary products, etc.) and Safety caps
- Clothes, gloves, underwear, towel, Kleenex, etc.
- Valuables (cash, bank book, health insurance certificate, etc.)
- Portable radio, dry-cell batteries, cell phone and wind-up charger
- Flashlight, candles, lighter
- Rain gear, Sneakers



Means to Collect Disaster Information

➤ City's Wireless Broadcasting

Also, you can get the same information through:
a toll-free telephone service at: **0120-711-508**
or Twitter: **@bousai_sakura**



➤ **L-Alert**, the local information sharing system is adopted by Chiba prefecture. You can get quick and accurate disaster information through various media outlets such as **TV and the Internet** anywhere, anytime.

➤ **An Emergency FM Radio** broadcast station will be set up by the City using the frequency available at the time of disaster.

➤ **Email Delivery** to your cell phone is available by registering your address. Send a blank message to: sakura@emp.ikkr.jp

Safety Information Services

In an event of a large-scale disaster, emergency message services will be available as shown below. These services can be used without additional fees.

➤ Disaster Voice Message Dial 171

Dial 171 and input the pre-registered land-line phone number in the disaster-stricken area as a search key so that you can record your safety status or check the safety status of people in the disaster stricken area. Can be accessed from analog lines and ISDN, private and public phones including emergency use public phones in evacuation centers installed after a disaster, as well as mobile phones, PHS phones and some IP phones.



➤ Disaster Message Boards

Select "Disaster Messaging Board" on the top page of your mobile phone's Menu screen and post your safety information in text so that it can be checked from mobile phones and PCs. You can also search for safety information posted by people in the disaster area by inputting their phone numbers. Numbers of all kinds of phones, such as mobile phone and IP phone, can be used. We recommend you to register your phone number, mail address, and notification list in preparation for emergency. For detailed procedures, please visit each mobile company's website. Multilingual service is offered by some Message Boards.

➤ **J-anpi**: a website for quick search for safety information (Ampi Joh'hoh). Please visit: <https://anpi.jp/>



List of Persons who Require Special Assistance during Evacuation

Shakai Fukushi-ka (Social Welfare Section) ☎ 484-6135
 Bohsai Boh'han-ka (Crime Prevention & Disaster Management Section) ☎ 484-6131

In order to provide more effective evacuation support and other assistance to the elderly, disabled, and other people with special needs, Sakura City is preparing two types of "List of Persons who Require Special Assistance during Evacuation" this fiscal year. "The list for evacuation in the event of a disaster (**List A**)" is to be used only in the event of a disaster, whereas "The list for evacuation for ordinary times (**List B**)" is to be used for developing evacuation plans through visits and interviews with the registered persons and watching them over in the normal times.

The information to be recorded on the lists is: name, birth date, address, and phone number of the registrant, and the reason for the need of special assistance. The lists shall consist of the persons who are applicable to the conditions in Table ① and ② below.

- **Persons in the Table ① are to be:**
 - ✓ Registered on List A automatically
 - ✓ Registered on List B upon request
- **Persons in the Table ② can make requests to be registered on both List A and List B.**

We will notify all such persons in and after October.

Such requests can be accepted in and after November.

The both lists will be shared with: Board of education office, Water & sewerage service managers, Chiba prefectural police, Sakura-shi, Yachimata-shi, and Shisui-machi Firefighting Association, Social workers, Social welfare council, Community associations, etc., when necessary.

Table ① Persons to be registered automatically on List A

Persons with certification of long-term care need (Level 3 to 5)
Persons with certain levels of various disabilities

Table ②: Persons eligible to be registered on List A & B

Persons of age 65 or over who live alone or belong to an aged household, and need long-term care or special assistance but not included in Table ①
Patients with intractable disease who are certified as critically ill
Infants (upon their parents' request)
Expectant and nursing mothers
Foreigners who have communication difficulty
Others (Persons who don't fall in any of the above, but have equivalent need for special assistance (upon the first-person's request))



Kusabue-no-Oka Autumn Activities

Sakura Kusabue-no-Oka, ☎ 485-7821, <http://kusabue.shiteikanri-sakura.jp/>

A lot of fun and delicious foods will be waiting for you at Kusabue-no-Oka. Won't you come and enjoy the harvest season with your family and friends?

■ Experience of rice harvesting (Saturday, Sep. 12)

The following two sessions are available.

- ① 10:00 (rice balls and miso soup will be served)
- ② 14:00 (experience of rice cake pounding will be offered)

Application required. ¥1,000/session. Up to 100 persons.

■ Experience of sweet potato harvesting

¥390 for three (3) root stocks. From early September.

■ Nordic Walking Workshop (Sep. 18, 10:00 to 12:00)

Application required. ¥500, up to 10 persons.

Rental gear is also available for additional ¥500

■ Autumn Festival (Sep. 19 to 23)

- ♥ Artwork exhibition by Kusabue-no-Oka cultural groups
- ♥ Cheerleading and brass bands' performance by students
- ♥ Kids Curry Cooking Competition

Admission Fee (Open 9:00-18:00)

Preschool children	Free
Elementary school & Junior high school students	100 yen
High school students and over	410 yen
Handicapped persons & One carer	Free



~FOR JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS WHO ARE NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS OF JAPANESE~

2015 GUIDANCE ON PREPARATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL

Guidance sessions for high school preparation will be offered as shown below for junior high school students (grade 1-3) who are non-native speakers of Japanese, and for their parents. Explanation and consultation about types of high schools, school expenses and entrance examinations will be provided. A prior appointment is recommended, but a visit without notice is also acceptable. To apply, please send a fax with necessary information: student's and parents' name, nationality, address, telephone number, the date the student came to Japan, name of junior high school the student is currently attending, the language need to be translated (if necessary).

	Date Time	Location	Application Deadline	Contact	
	Sep.27 (Sun)	14:00 to 17:00	Chiba Lifelong Learning Center	Sep. 20	Shuhichi Shiratani TEL&FAX: 043-424-4364 or Mobile: 080-3175-9539
	Oct.04 (Sun)		Funabashi Chuh'oh Kohminkan	Sep. 27	
	Oct.11 (Sun)		Matsudo Shimin Kaikan	Oct. 05	
	Oct. 12 (National Holiday)	13:30 to 16:30	Gyohtoku Bunka Hall I&I (Ichikawa)	Oct. 07	



National Population Census (*Kokusei Chosa*) 2015

A new, easier option of Internet reply became available!



Secretariat of the Sakura Headquarters for National Census ☎ 484-1125

Having been carried out every five years since 1920, the National Census is the most important statistics survey of people living in Japan. Its purpose is to clarify the actual situation of domestic households and population including foreigners who stay (or plan to stay) in Japan for at least three months. The survey results will be used by national and municipal governments, as well as various research institutions such as universities and private companies, as fundamental data for developing plans of welfare, anti-disaster and other important measures, and for variety of studies.

The 2015 National Census will be conducted based on the fact as of October 1, 2015. There will be 13 sections of questions regarding each member of your household: their gender, birth date, marital and working status, school location, etc., and 4 sections regarding your household: number of members, type of dwellings, housing tenure, etc.

Starting this year, reply via the Internet is available. Census Takers will visit each household between September 10 and 12 to distribute your ID number with which **you can reply via the Internet (English version is available)**. **For the Internet reply, please reply within the designated period from September 10 to September 20.** If you do not choose the Internet reply, the Census Taker will visit you again, after September 26, to hand you a questionnaire form to be filled out (available in multiple languages upon request). In that case, please fill out and submit the form no later than December 7.

In both cases, the information you provide is kept strictly confidential. Please note that based on the law, each and every household is required to correctly answer to the questions. We ask for your kind cooperation in advance.

Accepting Applications for Temporary Welfare Benefits

- Benefit Program: Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry of Japan (9:00 – 18:00) ☎0570-037-192
- Application Procedure: Shakai Fukushi-ka (Social Welfare Section, 8:30 – 17:15) ☎484-602



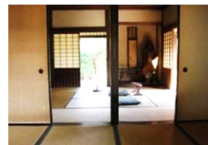
In order to alleviate the impact of the consumption tax hike in April 2014, two kinds of temporary welfare benefits are offered for low income earners. More specifically, for each eligible person or child, 6,000 yen and/or 3,000 yen (respectively) will be paid during FY2015.

Starting September 15, Sakura City sends out application forms to potential beneficiaries of the benefits. Please don't fail to submit the application form within the designated period (**September 15 to December 15**). Without application, you are deemed to have declined the benefit. Also, **please note that even those who applied for this program last year need to apply again this year.** Eligible persons must have registered in Sakura City as of January 1, 2015. For those who moved in Sakura City on and after January 2, 2015, we recommend to contact the municipality where they were registered as of January 1. For details, please check the following websites (in English):

- ☺ Temporary Welfare Benefit: <http://www.2kyufu.jp/foreign/english/rinji-en.html>
- ☺ Temporary Special Benefit for Households with Children: <http://www.2kyufu.jp/foreign/english/koso-en.html>

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

Bunka-ka (Culture Section), ☎484-6192
September 21 (National Holiday)



On September 21, *Keiroh-no-hi* (Respect for the Aged Day), **Kyuh-Hotta-Tei** (former residence of feudal lord *Hotta*) and **Buke-Yashiki** (old samurai houses) will have special openings of certain parts of their facilities which are not ordinarily open to the public. Open hours and the admission fees are as below:

	<i>Kyuh-Hotta-Tei</i> *	<i>Buke-Yashiki</i>
Admission for :		
Students/Children	¥160 (¥100)	¥100 (¥70)
Others	¥320 (¥210)	¥210 (¥150)
(): fees with group discount		
Open hours (Admission until)	9:30 – 16:30 (16:00)	10:00 – 17:00 (16:30)

* At both facilities, free tutorial tours will be offered by volunteer guides.

Garden Concert at Kyu-Hotta-Tei

Sunday, September 27
☎Bunka-ka, 484-6192

Won't you enjoy the beautiful sound of acoustic guitar and other various instruments while admiring the harvest moon from the Japanese garden of *Kyu-Hotta-Tei*?

Admission fee to the concert is 100 yen for students and 210 yen for others. Please apply if you want a chair seat, which are available for up to 100 persons.

POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end-July, the population of Sakura City is 177,326, consisting of 87,448 males and 89,878 females in 75,112 households. 2,324 registered foreign residents are included in the above.

Please Make Sure You Receive the Notice of Your Social Security and Tax Number (*My Number*)



- Shimin-ka (Registration & Certification Services Section) : ☎484-6122
- "My Number" Call Center (Multilingual Service) of Cabinet Secretariat:
☎0570-20-0291 (9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.)
Website: <http://www.cas.go.jp/jp/seisaku/bangoseido/english.html>

Starting October, "your social security number" notification card will be sent out to every registered citizen via simple registered post. Please make sure that the address of your residence registration is the actual current location of your living, so that you can receive it without fail. **However, when there is a compelling and unavoidable reason, the notification can be sent to an address other than the registered address upon your claim (must be received no later than September 25).** For details, please call us as soon as possible.

HEALTH INFORMATION



Health Information for Mothers & Children				Holiday & Nighttime Emergency Medical Services Nighttime on Sunday & Holiday 19:00 - 21:45 Dentistry & Internal Medicine at Kenkoh KC ☎239-2020
Health Check-ups	Sept. 2015	Center	Reception	
Children of 4 months , born in April 2015 	Wed. 02	Kenkoh KC	9:30 - 10:30	
	Thu. 24	Seibu HC	& 13:30 - 14:30	
	Mon. 07	Nambu HC	13:30 - 14:30	
Children of 8 months , born in Dec. 2014 ("Mogu-Mogu Class")	Tue. 29	Kenkoh KC	13:30 - 13:45	
	Fri. 04	Seibu HC	9:30 - 9:45	
Children of 18 months , born in March 2014	Tue. 08	Kenkoh KC	13:15 - 14:15	
	Wed. 16	Seibu HC		
	Fri. 11	Nambu HC		
Children of 3 years of age, born in March 2012	Wed. 09	Kenkoh KC	13:15 - 14:15	
	Thu. 17	Seibu HC		
	Thu. 10	Nambu HC		
Dental Check for children born in March or September 2013, or in September 2012 * On the days with * mark, consultation on Speech Development is also available.	Thu. 03*	Kenkoh KC	13:15 - 14:15	
	Tue. 15			
	Mon. 14*	Seibu HC		
	Fri. 18			
	Wed. 02*	Nambu HC		
Child Development Consultation for preschoolers ("Suku-Suku Hattatsu Sohdan")	Thu. 03	Kenkoh KC Application required	9:00 - 12:00	
	Mom's and Dad's Class for expectant parents due in Dec. 2015 or Jan. 2016 	Sun. 13	Seibu HC Application required	9:00 - 12:00
Health Consultation for Adults				Child Abuse Consultation Children & Youth Section: ☎484-6263 (Weekends & Holidays: ☎484-1111) Chiba Child Abuse Hotline (24-hour): ☎252-1152 Sakura Police Station: ☎484-0110
Mental Health Consultation by psychiatrist 	Tue. 01	Kenkoh KC Reservation required	13:50 - 16:00	
Consultation by public health nurse 	Mon. 14 Wed. 02	Kenkoh KC Seibu HC	13:30 - 15:30 09:30 - 11:30	
Kenkoh Kanri Center ☎485-6712		Seibu Hoken Center ☎463-4181		Nambu Hoken Center ☎483-2812