

Koh'hoh-ka (Public Relations Section), Sakura City Hall, ☎(043) 484-1111, Ext.2275 or

☎(043) 484-6103; Fax:(043) 486-8720; email: koho@city.sakura.lg.jp; URL: <http://www.city.sakura.lg.jp>

This is a free monthly English newsletter carrying excerpts from the Japanese newsletter published by Sakura city for its foreign residents. For free subscription by postal mail and/or email, please send your request via email or fax to the above address/number. In principle, inquiries can be answered only in Japanese at the city hall and other city facilities. If you do not speak Japanese, please be accompanied by someone who speaks Japanese when you make inquiries. (Printed on recycled paper.)



The 28th Sakura Tulip Festival

9:00 – 16:00, April 2 to April 24
at Sakura Furusato Hiroba Square

Sakura City Kankoh Kyohkai, ☎486-6000
<http://www.city.sakura.lg.jp/0000000042.html>

Spring has come and again it's the season to enjoy the carpet of tulips at Furusato Hiroba, the field next to Sakura's landmark Dutch windmill 'De Liefde' on the lakeside of Imbanuma Lake.

The festival is going to be one of the largest in Kanto region with some 710,000 tulips of 100 varieties. Along the sidewalk, lots of stalls will be selling tulips, food, drinks and local products during the festival. You can also enjoy variety of activities as below!

♥ **Dig Tulip Bulbs with Flowers!** (¥500 for 10 tulips)

You can dig up tulip bulbs of your choice and bring home with their flowers to plant in your garden.

♥ **Rent Dutch Traditional Costumes!** (¥1,000 for 45 minutes)

♥ **Yakatabune Boat Tour on Imbanuma Lake** (¥1,000/adult, ¥500/child)

Available on April 11- 15 and weekends during the festival.

♥ **Bicycle Rental** (Regular type: ¥500/day, Electric: ¥1000/day)

♥ **Test Ride Experience of Dutch bicycles** (April 23 & 24, after 10:00AM)

You can experience the ride of bicycles unique to the Netherlands!



~ Windmill Festival ~

April 9 & 10

Sponsored by

Sakura Japan-Netherlands Society

- Sales of Dutch food
- Experience of Dutch clogs
- Panel exhibition of windmills



**Experience of
Windmill Manipulation**

April 2, 3, 16,
17, 23, and 24
(All Saturdays &
Sundays)



Dutch Street Organ Performance

~Enjoy the beautiful sound
in the colorful tulip field!~



On Saturdays & Sundays
during the festival

Access to the Venue

As heavy traffic jam is foreseen and the parking lots are limited around the festival site, you are requested to take shuttle bus or route bus if possible. Please note that you'll be charged ¥100 for one ride. *By foot, it takes about

40 minutes from Keisei Usui station

60 minutes from Keisei Sakura station.



Cherry Blossoms in Sakura Castle Park

Event Period: Wednesday, April 1 – Monday, April 6

Sakura City Kankoh Kyohkai (tourist association), ☎ 486-6000

Sakura Castle Park is one of the most popular Hanami spots in Sakura. In this site once there had been the only castle in Chiba Prefecture that is listed as one of the Japan's Top 100 Castles. In the park, you can see about 1,100 cherry trees in roughly 50 varieties in total, including the 13 finest varieties well-known since the Edo period. Many of them will be in full bloom from late March to early April. A lot of stalls sell cooked foods, produce, sweets, drinks, etc. during the period above.

(See page 2 for information on Museum Special Night Viewing!)



Cherry Blossoms in Sakura Castle Park



Museum Special Night Viewing

18:00 – 20:00, through April 5

At the entrance hall of

National Museum of Japanese History*

* Free admission to the entrance hall.

* The museum is closed on Monday, April 4.

National Museum of Japanese History, ☎ 486-0123

Everyone is invited to the special night viewing of cherry blossoms at the museum! The beautifully illuminated tree in bloom can be seen through the huge glass wall of the museum's entrance hall, and the sight will be rolled out before your eyes just like a screen framed by the darkness of night. No application required.

NEW TAX RATES FOR LIGHT-VEHICLES



City Tax Section, ☎ 484-6223



Light-vehicle tax is the tax levied on a person who owns a light vehicle including mopeds under 50cc, small bikes under 250cc, small-sized special vehicles and other light vehicles as of April 1 each year.

As of April 1, 2016, the light-vehicle tax rates change due to the tax revision as shown below.

Mopeds, Small-sized special motor vehicles, etc.

Vehicle Type	Total Engine Displacement or Description	Tax Amount
Moped & Small bike	50cc or under (other than mini-car)	2,000 yen
	Over 50cc and under 90cc	2,000 yen
	Over 90cc and under 125cc	2,400 yen
	Mini-car with three or more wheels (Over 20cc and under 50cc)	3,700 yen
Small-sized Special Motor Vehicle	Farm-working Vehicle (e.g. tractor)	2,400 yen
	Others (e.g. forklift)	5,900 yen
Two-wheeled Light Vehicle	Over 125cc and under 250cc or 250cc	3,600 yen
Two-wheeled Compact Car	Over 250cc	6,000 yen

Three or Four Wheeled Light Vehicles

Year and Month of the First-Year Inspection (FYI)		In and before March 2015 (Excluding vehicles in the 14th year or more after FYI)	In and After April 2015	Vehicles in the 14th year or more after FYI*1
Three-wheeled Vehicle		3,100 yen	3,900 yen	4,600 yen
Four-wheeled Vehicle	Commercial Passenger	5,500 yen	6,900 yen	8,200 yen
	Private Passenger	7,200 yen	10,800 yen	12,900 yen
	Commercial Freight	3,000 yen	3,800 yen	4,500 yen
	Private Freight	4,000 yen	5,000 yen	6,000 yen

Three or Four Wheeled Light Vehicles Subject to Special Tax Reduction

Vehicles subject to Special Tax Reduction (Three or Four Wheeled Vehicles with FYI in a period from April 2015 through March 2016)		Hybrid or Gas Vehicles*3	
		Light Electric Vehicles & Light-duty Natural Gas Vehicles*2	
		Passenger cars that achieved 20 % more efficiency than 2020 standard	Passenger cars that achieved 2020 fuel economy standard
		Freight achieved 35 % more efficiency than 2015 standard	Freight Achieved 15 % more efficiency than 2015 standard
Special Tax Reduction		Roughly 75%	Roughly 50%
Three-wheeled Vehicle			
Four-wheeled Vehicle	Commercial Passenger	1,000 yen	2,000 yen
	Private Passenger	1,800 yen	3,500 yen
	Commercial Freight	2,700 yen	5,400 yen
	Private Freight	1,000 yen	1,900 yen
		3,000 yen	5,200 yen
		2,700 yen	8,100 yen
		1,000 yen	2,900 yen
		1,300 yen	3,800 yen

*2: For the application of the reduced rate, natural gas vehicle must meet some other conditions

*3: For the application of the reduced rate, hybrid or gas vehicles must achieve 75% of 2005 emission control standards



Special Opening of Kyu-Hotta-Tei, Buke-Yashiki & Juntendo Memorial Building

Bunka-ka (Culture Section), ☎ 484-6192

April 29 (National Holiday)

On April 29, **Kyuh-Hotta-Tei** (former residence of lord **Hotta**), **Buke-Yashiki** (samurai houses) and **Juntendo Memorial** offer special viewing of certain parts of their facilities or documents which are not ordinarily open to the public.

Open hours and admission fees

Kyuh-Hottatei	Buke-Yashiki	Juntendo Memorial
9:30 – 16:30 (Last admission 16:00)	9:00 – 17:00 (Last admission 16:30)	
¥320	¥210	¥100
¥160/Student	¥100/Student	¥50/Student
Combined Ticket for 3 facilities		
¥540		
¥270/Student		



Yakatabune Houseboat Sightseeing Trips Operation Starts!

Sakura City Kankoh Kyohkai (Tourist Association), ☎ 486-6000

Yakatabune houseboat has newly started its operation for sightseeing of the Imbanuma Lake.

Two boats with capacity of 11 persons are available for reservations or shared trips.

Boarding points:

- The dock at Sakura Furusato Hiroba Square
- The dock at the foot of Sunset Hills

Types of use:

- Reserved use for groups (2 hrs. ~ 30 min.)
¥25,000-¥10,000 depending on the duration
- Shared use for a lake tour (40 min.)
¥1,000/high school student & older ,
¥500/junior high student & younger
- One-way trip to another dock* (15 min.)
Every Saturday and Sunday from March to November. Depart at 10:00, 13:00, & 15:30.

*No service during special events at Furusato Hiroba Square or in bad weather.

*1: Higher tax rate is applied as a measure for greening

DOGS MASS VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES

Seikatsu Kankyoh-ka (Environmental Sanitation Section), ☎ 484-6148



Under the Rabies Prevention Law, all dog owners are required to register their dogs and have them vaccinated against rabies once every year after the dog becomes 91 days old or older. The city offers mass vaccinations at the locations shown below. Please fill out and bring the vaccination notice sent to the owners by the city. The cost for a shot is 3,500 yen in total (2,950 yen for a shot and ¥550 for a Rabies Vaccination Tag).

SCHEDULE OF MASS VACCINATION		
DATE	PLACE	TIME
4/12 (Tue)	Yatomi Minzoku Shuhzohko (Former Yatomi Elementary school)	9:20 - 9:40
	San'noh Koh'en Park, San'noh 2	10:20 - 10:55
	Tohjidai Nishi Park	11:25 - 11:55
	Shirogane Koh'en Park	13:35 - 14:25
4/14 (Thu)	Tohmasaku Koh'en Park (Minami Yukarigaoka)	9:30 - 10:15
	Yukarigaoka Kita Koh'en Park	10:55 - 11:50
	Oise Koh'en Park, Ohjidai 1	13:10 - 14:30
4/16 (Sat)	Hoshiba Koh'en Park, Nakashizu 1	9:15 - 10:05
	Minamishizu Koh'en Park, Nishishizu 8	10:45 - 11:50
	Yukarigaoka Minami Koh'en Park	13:10 - 14:30
4/19 (Tue)	Iwana Sports Park (Beside the main parking lot)	9:05 - 9:40
	Ebaradai 3 goh (No.3) Koh'en Park	10:30 - 11:15
	Usui Castle Park	12:45 - 13:15
	Tenshi-no-mori Kohen Park, Ohjamachi	14:05 - 14:30
4/21 (Thu)	Wada Furusato-kan	9:20 - 9:50
	Sakado Kumin-kan	10:25 - 10:45
	Komagaeshi Koh'en Park, Ohsakidai 4	11:25 - 11:55
	Matsuyama Koh'en Park, Ohjidai 6	13:30 - 14:20
4/23 (Sat)	City Hall (Parking lot)	9:00 - 10:40
	Someino Choseiike Hiroba Square	11:30 - 12:45

Unregistered dogs can be registered at the venue with additional 3,000 yen of registration fee. If you are unable to come on the mass vaccination day, please make sure you get your dog immunized at an animal clinic.

NOTES

- Please refrain from visiting by car, since parking lots are not available other than at Iwana Sports Park.
- In the following cases, no rabies shot can be administered to dogs; ①The dog is registered at another city and have not yet completed the procedure for moving into Sakura ②The dog received a different kind of vaccination less than 30 days before ③The dog experienced serious side effect of a vaccination in the past ④The dog is in mating season, pregnant, breast-feeding, or under 91 days of age ⑤The dog is uncontrollable
- Make sure to bring cleanup bags and utensils so that you can take home your pet's droppings.
- You are required to report any changes in your dog's registration (changes in owner, address, etc.). Also, when your dog died, you need to file a death notice to have the record cancelled.

(* Mass vaccination will be cancelled if a weather warning is issued at 7:00 AM or earlier on the scheduled day.)



ACCEPTING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FOR SENIOR HIGH STUDENTS

Kyoh'iku Sohmu-ka (General Educational Affairs Section) ☎484-6182

The City grants scholarship for senior high school students who meet all the conditions below. Successful applicants are granted the scholarship of up to 80,000 yen in a fiscal year. For the grant payment to be started from April, application forms must be received no later than Monday, May 2. Please note that the grant will not be paid for the months before the application in case of later application.

1. Living in Sakura City
2. Entered senior high school in the year or the next year of the graduation from junior high school
3. The student is motivated to learn and has earned a grade point average of three or more on the five-grade evaluation system at the time of graduation from the junior high school
4. Family income in the previous year was less than 1.3 times of the income eligibility for public assistance and have financial difficulties in attending senior high school in this fiscal year
5. Have a recommendation letter by the principal of the junior high school that the student graduated from

Application forms can be obtained at Kyoh'iku-sohmu-ka at the City Hall, or by downloading from the City's website:

<http://www.city.sakura.lg.jp/0000002760.html>



TIME CHANGES OF WIRELESS BROADCASTING

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

Every evening, the city broadcasts music through the community wireless speakers for a daily test of the emergency broadcasting system as well as an encouragement for children to go home before dark. From April 1 through October 31, the broadcasting time will be 17:00 instead of 16:30.



Application Accepted for FY2016 Regular Use of City Parking Lots for Bicycles & Motorcycles



Designated Manager: Japan Society of Parking Engineering, ☎ 03-3597-9851

Service Hours

Application is accepted at each parking lot within the following time frame.

Until April 15 (Weekdays): 6:30 - 10:30 & 16:00 - 20:00
(Weekends & National holidays): 8:00 - 12:00

On and after April 16 (Weekdays): 6:30 - 09:30 & 17:00 - 20:00
(Weekends & National holidays): 8:00 - 11:00

How to Apply

Application forms and guidance leaflets are available at each parking lot. Please fill out the form and bring (or send by post) it to the counter of the parking lot you are planning to use. Please note that there is a change in the rental fee this fiscal year, and that some of the parking lots get full very quickly. For details, please refer to:







<http://www.city.sakura.lg.jp/cmsfiles/contents/0000003/3579/H28tebiki.pdf>

POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end of February, the population of Sakura is 176,919 (87,259 males and 89,660 females) in 75,263 households. 2,444 registered foreign residents are included in the above.

HEALTH INFORMATION



HEALTH INFORMATION FOR MOTHERS & CHILDREN				 Holiday & Nighttime Emergency Medical Services	
Health Check-ups	Apr. 2016	Center	Reception	Nighttime on Sunday & Holiday 19:00 - 21:45 Dentistry & Internal Medicine at Kenkoh KC ☎239-2020	
Children of 4 months , born in November 2015 	Wed. 06	Kenkoh KC	9:30—10:30		
	Wed. 27	Seibu HC	13:30—14:30		
	Mon. 18	Nambu HC	13:30—14:30		
Children of 8 months , born in July 2015 ("Mogu-Mogu Class")	Fri. 08	Kenkoh KC	13:30—13:45	Emergency Pediatric Internal Medicine ☎485-3355 for children under age 16 Monday through Saturday: 19:00 - 5:45 (next morning) Sunday & holiday: 9:00 - 16:45 & 19:00 - 5:45 	
	Fri. 15	Seibu HC	9:30—9:45		
	Mon. 18	Nambu HC			
Children of 18 months , born in October 2014	Tue. 12	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15		
	Tue. 19	Seibu HC			
Children of 3 years of age born in October 2012	Wed. 13	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15	To Find On-Duty Doctor Recorded audio guidance 8:30-22:00 on Sunday & Holiday ☎484-2516 ●Daytime treatment of Internal Medicine, Surgery, Dentistry ●Nighttime treatment of Surgery * Treatment is provided at each doctor's office 	
	Wed. 20	Seibu HC			
Dental Check for children born in April or October 2013, or in April 2014  * On the days with * mark, consultation on Speech Development is also available.	Thu. 07*	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15		
	Tue. 26				
	Mon. 11*	Seibu HC			
	Mon. 25				
	Thu. 14*	Nambu HC			
Child Development Consultation for preschoolers ("Suku-Suku Hattatsu Sohdan")	Thu. 21	Kenkoh KC Application required	9:00—12:00	Child Abuse Consultation/Reporting	
Maternity Class for expectant mothers due in July or August 2016  Application required expectant mothers & fathers due in July or August 2016	Thu. 28	Kenkoh KC	9:00—14:30	Children & Youth Section (Daytime): ☎484-6263 (Night time, Weekends & Holidays): ☎484-1111) Chiba Child Abuse Hotline (24 hrs): ☎252-1152	
	Sun. 24	Seibu HC	9:00—12:00		
HEALTH CONSULTATION FOR ADULTS					

HEALTH CONSULTATION FOR ADULTS

WHEN YOU FIND OUT YOU'RE PREGNANT...

- ☑ Report your pregnancy to the City
 - ⇒ Obtain “Boshi Kenko Techo (Maternal and Child Health Handbook)” & “Boshi Kenko Techo Bessatsu (the separate volume).” English and other 7 language versions are available on request. The handbook is used for recording pre- and post-natal checkups and keeping track of the vaccinations taken until the children reach their adulthood. The separate volume carries the coupons for health checkups for mothers and the infants.
- ☑ Seek out opportunities to learn about the life with a new-born baby and to meet and associate with other expectant mothers
 - ⇒ Sakura City offers maternity classes for expectant mothers and fathers, and similar classes can be found also at hospitals and clinics. Also recommended are the Childcare Experience Sessions for expectant parents offered at some nursery schools.

WHEN YOU HAVE A BABY...

- ☑ Report the birth to the City within 14 days after the delivery
 - ⇒ Please find the “Birth Reporting Form” in “Boshi Kenko Techo Bessatsu,” fill it out, and send it to the city hall.
- ☑ Schedule health checkups and vaccinations for the baby. A public health nurse or a midwife will visit your first baby at home, so please consult with her if you have any questions.

Kenkoh Kanri Center ☎485-6711	Seibu Hoken Center ☎463-4181	Nambu Hoken Center ☎483-2812