

Kōhō-ka (Public Relations Section), Sakura City Hall

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This is a free monthly English newsletter carrying excerpts from the Japanese newsletter *Kōhō Sakura* (こうほう佐倉) issued by Sakura City. For a free subscription by postal mail, please send your request via email or fax to the above email address/fax number. In general, inquiries can be answered in English on **Wednesdays**, in Spanish on **Thursdays** and in Chinese on **Fridays**, through *Kōhō-ka*, City Hall. Except these days, questions can be answered only in Japanese at City Hall and/or other city facilities. Therefore, when making inquiries, please be accompanied by someone who speaks Japanese as needed. (Printed on recycled paper.)

Message from the Mayor of Sakura City

“With a new determination for All Sakura”

Happy New Year 2022! I extend my sincere congratulations to all the citizens for welcoming the New Year, with hopes for a bright future.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the citizens, businesses and those who are engaged in the front lines of medical care for their cooperation in preventing the spread of the new coronavirus infection. The effects of the prolonged situation have brought about significant changes in our daily lives and local communities, such as the establishment of new lifestyles like teleworking and the promotion of a digital society.



As we enter a historic turning point such as responding to global warming environmental problems, it is required to accurately grasp the needs of these times in order to create a sustainable society while protecting the lives and livelihoods of everyone. In the recovery from repeated natural disasters such as the typhoon of the year 2019 and the countermeasures against new coronavirus infections, including vaccinations, the desire of many people to improve Sakura City and the human relationships has been the driving force behind various measures and the advancement of “All-Sakura” city planning. Thank you for your continued support.

In order to fulfill everyone’s thoughts and wishes, we will continue to accelerate our efforts to maintain and increase the population with the purpose of attaining our vision of Sakura City: “A healthy and secure future city where everyone can bloom and shine” set forth in the 5th Sakura City Comprehensive Plan. In addition, we will work on the management of the city government with an eye on the new era, such as responding to the new corona vaccination, improving the child-rearing environment, enhancing the welfare of the elderly, maintaining and improving a good living environment and revitalizing the industry. We kindly ask for your continued understanding and cooperation in these endeavors. In conclusion, I would like to convey my best wishes for the continued happiness and health of all the citizens.



Let's enjoy the New Year at Kusabue-no-Oka!



ONE-DAY FREE ADMISSION ON JANUARY 2 (SUNDAY)

- ◆ Mondays will remain closed until middle March.
- ◆ January 3 (Mon) temporary closure.
- ◆ From January 4 (Tue) the usual schedule resumes.



Calling the Good Fortune during Setsubun Festival!

☞ “Doctor Yellow”, the mini bullet train, will be operating from 10:00 to 4:00 PM on Sunday, January 30. During this time, *Setsubun* beans with lottery slips will be distributed among passengers of both, Doctor Yellow as well as the mini locomotive. Fresh, local vegetables are among the great prizes you can possibly win!

Mamemaki (bean-throwing) Event: Sunday, January 30 from 11:00 until noon and from 14:00 to 15:00 hours.

✂ Climbing rose trellis courses:

▶Jan. 22 (Sat), 27 (Thur) ▶Feb. 2 (Wed)

Reservation required.

- ▶Time: From 10:00 to 12:30
- ▶Fee: 1,000 Yen (Admission fee to the park is not included.)
- ▶Capacity: 10 people, first-come first-served.
- ▶Cancelled in case of rain.
- ▶Items to bring: pruning scissors, leather gloves, warm clothing.
- ▶To apply: By postcard, fax or e-mail. Include your name, address, telephone or fax number, e-mail address and your desired date to participate and send to:

Kusabue-no-oka Bara-en,

〒285-0003 Iino 820, ☎485-7821 / Fax 486-9356
koushuukai@kusabueroses.jp



Kusabue-no-Oka ☎ 485-7821 Open 9:00-17:00
Admission fees: Adults: 410 Yen, Free for infants.
Elementary and Jr. High School Students: 100 Yen

Accepting Applications for Municipal Housing



Jūtaku-ka (Housing Section)
☎ 484-6168

Municipal apartments are available, as per the table on the right. For detailed information, please refer to the application forms that will be available from **January 11 (Tue)** at the City Hall, Housing Division (Jūtaku-ka), city branch offices and city service centers (Nishishizu Fureai Center, Yatomi Community Center and Sakura citizens' service center at the Millennium Center). Applications will be accepted from **January 17 (Mon) through January 31 (Mon)**. **Please attach the necessary documents to the application form and bring them to the City Hall, Housing Division.**

Location	Oja	Horinouchi
Type	General	General
Houses Available	1	1
Floor Plan	1DK	2DK
Rent (Yen)	14,300~28,100	15,500~30,400

※ Recruitment housing units are subject to change.

Eligible residents are those who meet all the requirements below:

1. Living in Sakura City for more than one year and paying city taxes on time.
 2. Living or planning to live together with at least one relative (Use by one person is allowed under certain conditions)
 3. Having obvious and actual housing difficulties and it is clear that the house is actually in need.
 4. Monthly income is within the prescribed limits: 158,000 yen or less of monthly income for general households. 214,000 yen or less of monthly income for discretionary households (Those that meet certain conditions, such as for the elderly and people with disabilities)
 5. Neither the applicant nor his/her relatives are members of a gangster organization.
- ※The rent is determined every year according to the income of the resident and housing conditions.



New Year Garbage Collection Schedule

Haikibutsu Taisaku-ka (Garbage Control Section) ☎ 484-6149

- ◆ Please put waste in the designated garbage bags at the assigned collection site.
- ◆ Dispose of the garbage in the morning of the collection day, before and until 8:30 AM, not the night before.
- ◆ Business-related garbage cannot be put out.
- ◆ Oversized garbage collection reservation starts from January 4th, (Tuesday). Please call the facility that corresponds to the area where you live:

Those who live in Sakura, Negō, Wada & Yatomi areas. Also, Usui and Shizu area at the northern side of the Keisei Line railroad only.	Inba Bōekisha, ☎483-5022
Those who live in the Chiyoda area. Also, Usui and Shizu areas at the southern side of the Keisei Line railroad only.	Igarashi-Shōkai, ☎443-4676

- ◆ The New Year garbage collection schedule is as follows:

January 2022	1 (Sat.) ~ 3 (Mon.)	No garbage collection
	4 (Tuesday)	Burnable garbage collection starts. ※ Papers and cans <i>will not be collected</i>
	5 (Wednesday)	Burnable garbage collection. The usual collection starts.

EXTRAORDINARY SPECIAL BENEFITS FOR CHILD-REARING HOUSEHOLDS

Child and Family Support Section ☎ 484-6140

Based on the impact of the new coronavirus infectious disease, temporary special benefits will be provided to child-rearing households. Children born between April 2, 2003 and April 1, 2022 are eligible to receive this benefit.

※ There is an income limit based on the children's allowance standard amount.

Application deadline: February 28, 2022 (Monday)

Benefit amount: 100,000 Yen per child.



▶ **Which households need to apply?** Those with target children who did not receive the child allowance in September 2021, households raising high school students, civil servants' households, etc. Information has been sent to those requiring application.

▶ Applications for newborns will be accepted even after the deadline.

▶ The base date is September 30, 2021. If you were not living in Sakura City on the base date, you need to go through the procedures at the municipality where you were living on the date of reference.

▶ Procedures are subject to change. For details, please consult the guide you will receive individually or find the latest information in the city home page.



Shichifuku-Jin STAMP-COLLECTING TOUR

JANUARY 1 – JANUARY 10

Why don't you visit "the seven gods of good fortune" while taking a leisure stroll in Sakura, a town that has been certified as a Japanese heritage?

- ◆ **Sale of vermilion paper seals:** 400 Yen each. You can obtain them from 10:00~17:00 at any of the following places (only until 16:00 at each temple and shrine):
 - **Tezukuri Kōbō Sakura**, closed Jan. 1 (Sat) & Jan. 2 (Sun) Opens from Jan. 3 (Mon). Closed on the following Mondays as well as the first and third Tuesdays.
 - **Ichioka Japanese sweets parlor**. Will open from January 1 ~ 10, closing on January 11 (Tue) as well as Sundays and national holidays.
 - **Sakura City Tourism Association**. Closed Jan. 1~3
- ※ For 2,000 yen you can buy at Tezukuri Kōbō Sakura and Ichioka Japanese sweets parlor a fully-stamped notepad from all temples and shrines

◆ Vermillion stamps' fees for each temple and shrine.

One stamp of a vermilion seal costs 200 yen (300 yen for the two stamps of *Makata Jinja Shrine* and *Daishōin*). You can obtain them from January 1 through January 10 and on the 10th of every month from 10:00 ~ 16:00
 ※ Daishōin no Daikokuten and Shorinji Bishamonten are hidden Buddhas and cannot be viewed. ※ Please check with each temple or shrine for information on how to use the vermilion stamp notepad.

Sakura Shichifukujin-kai
 (at the Ichioka Japanese Sweets Parlor)
 Tel & Fax: 308-7072



YAMATO-IMO, OUTSTANDING STICKINESS AND GREAT TASTE, SAKURA'S PRIDE!

Sakura City is blessed with the soft soil of the Kantō loam formation and a relative warm climate. The making of Yamato yam has been popular for almost 80 years and it's one of the leading production areas in Japan. Currently, at the peak of its harvest, fresh Yamato yams are lined up at supermarkets, please take this opportunity to taste them!

Nutrition facts: Rich in protein, it has long been known as a nourishing food. Contains the diastase enzyme that promotes good digestion and helps digest other foods as well.

Recommended recipe:

Yamato-yaki is an okonomiyaki style of Japanese dish, easy to prepare and does not require eggs or flour.

Ingredients:

- 100 g Yamato-imo (grated)
 - 125 g Cabbage (shredded)
 - Sakura dry shrimp*
 - Agedama (tenkasu)*
 - 1/2 tsp Dry soup stock, (ex. Kombu dashi)
 - 1 tbsp Red pickled ginger (beni shoga) (minced)
- Mix all the ingredients. In a hot, oiled skillet, pour the mix and fry on both sides. Serve with your favorite topping and enjoy! *Add to your taste.



TAKOAGE TAIKAI (KITE FLYING CONTEST)

Takoage (Kite flying) is a traditional New Year's pastime in Japan. At this contest, you can fly kites of any size or design, handmade or purchased. Prizes will be awarded for kites that are judged to be unique or those which flew the highest.

If you would like to participate, please come directly to the venue on the day of the event. Free of charge/No need for pre-registration. Subject to cancellation in case of stormy weather. ※ Fishing rods are not allowed.

Date & Time: January 23 (Sun) 9:30 ~ 11:30
 Place: Iwana Undō Kōhen, at the Koide Yoshio Commemorative Athletics Stadium.

Children's Policy Section (Kodomo Seisaku-ka) ☎484-6190



SEIJIN-SHIKI COMING-OF-AGE CEREMONY

January 10 (Mon)
 at the
 City Concert Hall



Young adults living in Sakura who were born on or between April 2, 2001 until April 1, 2002 are invited to the coming-of-age ceremony which will be held four times on January 10.

The schedule is as follows:

- ◆ 10:00 ~ Usui / Chiyoda
- ◆ 11:30 ~ Shizu (Shizu & Kamishizu Jr. High Schools)
- ◆ 13:30 ~ Shizu (Nishishizu & Ino Jr. High Schools)
- ◆ 15:00 ~ Sakura / Nego / Wada / Yatomi

※ The content of the event may be changed or canceled depending on the coronavirus spread status. The latest information is available on the city's website.

Children's Policy Section (Kodomo Seisaku-ka) ☎484-6190
 kodomoseisaku@city.sakura.lg.jp

Free Legal Consultations for Foreign Residents (Muryō Hōritsu Sōdan) 13:00 ~ 16:00 (45 mins/person)

◆ Reservation Required ◆ Interpreters available on request (Please call at least 10 days in advance)

◆ First come, first served basis

Next consultation months/days:

- ① For Legal matters, divorce, accident, inheritance, labor problems. ② Immigration, visa, business.





January 15 (Sat) ① ②

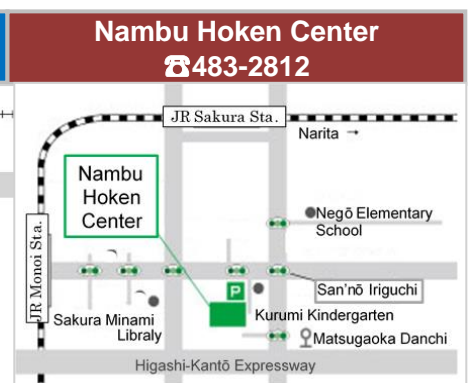
February 7 (Mon) ① March 7 (Mon) ① ②

Chiba International Center (Makuhari)
 Chiba Convention Bureau
 ☎ 297-0245 Fax 297-2753
 E-mail: kudo@ccb.or.jp



HEALTH INFORMATION – JANUARY 2022

Health Information for Mothers & Children				Holiday & Night-time Emergency Medical Services 
HEALTH CHECKUPS				Sundays & Holidays Night-time Treatment (19:00~21:45) Internal Medicine and Dentist services at Kenkō KC ☎239-2020
4-month checkup for children born in August 2021 ※An appointed time will be indicated 	Tue. 11	Kenkō KC	9:30 – 11:00 &13:30 – 14:15	
	Wed. 19	Seibu HC	9:30 – 11:00 &13:30 – 15:00	
	Wed. 26	Nambu HC	13:30 – 15:00	
8-month checkup for children born in April 2021 (“Mogu-Mogu Class”) ※ Application required.	Fri. 07	Kenkō KC	13:15 – 14:45	
	Tue. 18	Seibu HC	9:15 – 11:15	
	Wed. 26	Nambu HC		
18-month checkup for children born in July 2020 ※An appointed time will be indicated	Thur. 13	Kenkō KC	13:10 – 14:40	
	Thur. 27	Seibu HC		
	Thur. 20	Nambu HC		
3-year checkup for children born in July 2018 ※An appointed time will be indicated	Fri. 14	Kenkō KC	13:10 – 14:40	
	Fri. 28	Seibu HC		
	Fri. 21	Nambu HC		
Dental Checkup for children born in January or July 2019, or Jan. 2020 ※On the days with a (*)mark, consultation on Speech Development is also available. ※An appointed time will be indicated. 	Wed. 12* Tue. 25	Kenkō KC	13:15 – 14:15	
	Mon. 17* Mon. 31	Seibu HC		
	Mon. 24*	Nambu HC		
Child Development Consultation for pre-schoolers (“Suku-Suku Hattatsu Sohdan”)	Thur. 20	Kenkō KC Application required	9:00 – 12:00	Emergency Pediatric Internal Medicine for children aged 15 or younger at Kenkō KC ☎485-3355 Every night 19:00 ~ AM 5:45 On Sundays & holidays, open 9:00 ~ 16:45 & 19:00~AM 5:45 Night-time Consultation on children’s acute illnesses: ☎#8000 (19:00 – 6:00 AM, 365 days) on acute illnesses (for anyone): ☎#7009 (18:00 – 6:00 AM, 365 days; 9:00 – 6:00 AM on Sunday & Holidays) To Find an On-Duty Doctor (*) 8:30~22:00 (Sundays & Holidays) ☎484-2516 Recorded audio guidance on contacting: (daytime) • a surgeon • a dentist • a doctor of internal medicine (night-time)• a surgeon (*) Treatment is provided at each doctor’s office
Maternity Class for expectant mothers and fathers of babies due from March 2022 ~ May 2022 	Sun. 16	Seibu HC Application required	9:00 – 12:00/ 13:00 – 16:00	
Health Consultation for Adults Consultation with public health nurse Application required 	Fri. 21	Seibu HC	9:30 – 11:30	
	Thur. 06	Nambu HC		
Child Abuse Consultation/Reporting Children & Youth Section, City Hall (Daytime): ☎484-6263 Chiba Pref. Hotline (24 Hours): ☎252-1152 Sakura Police Station: ☎484-0110				



Rubella Vaccinations – Have you completed the antibody testing and vaccination?

Candidates: Males born April 2, 1962 through April 1, 1979.

It is said that men of the age corresponding to the target date of birth have a low rubella antibody prevalence. If you have had rubella in the past, we recommend that you take this opportunity to have a test to see if you have antibodies. If your antibody count is low, you can get vaccinated free of charge. The coupon validity is until March 31, 2022 (Thursday). Please contact the section in charge indicated below if you have not received your coupon, if you lost it or if you have moved in from outside the city.

Maternal and Child Health Division (Boshi Hoken-ka) ☎ 312-7688

POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY AS OF THE END OF NOV., 2021 ※ () Increase/Decrease from previous month.
 The population was 172,324 ※ (-) 141. The total includes 84,854 males and 87,470 females in 78,654 households.
 The number of births totaled 77. Registered non-Japanese residents: 3,713.