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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 for 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.

With the Dutch windmill as a background, more than 500,000 cosmos flowers will be in full bloom during the festival at Sakura Furusato Hiroba Square. Visitors can cut or dig up flowers for purchase: 100 Yen / five cosmos plants or 300 Yen / one plastic bag, meaning as many flowers/plants as you can put in the bag. ✨Since the digging and cutting will be done by yourself, please bring garden boots or the adequate shoes for this activity. ✨Please note that schedules may change due to flowering conditions, weather, etc.



◆ **Bicycle rentals:** Available at any of the following places: ①Sakura-shi Kankō Kyōkai (near Keisei Sakura St.) ②Kankō Jōhō Center (at the north exit of JR Sakura Station) ③At the festival venue ④San-San Cycle (near Keisei Usui Station, south exit. ⑤ Aeon-Lakepia Usui. The rental fees are: 600 Yen per day or 1,200 Yen for an electric bicycle. (It is possible to return bicycles at a different place from ① to ⑤).



**Schedule:** ①~③ 9:00~16:00

④ 10:00~18:00 (Closed on Wednesdays)

⑤ 10:00~16:30 (Closed on Mondays).



◆ Specialty products will be sold at the venue as well as food and drinks at kitchen cars. ✨Kitchen cars will open mainly on Saturdays and Sundays.

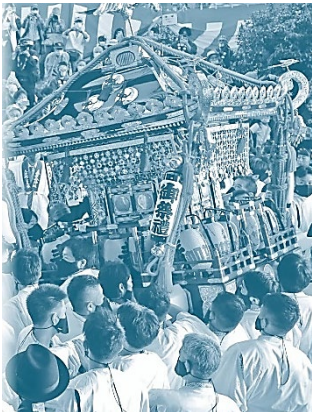
## Sakura Cosmos Festival

October 7 (Sat.) ~  
22 (Sun)  
9:00 ~ 16:00



### ◆ Pleasure boat rides:

Enjoy sightseeing around Imbanuma Lake!  
 Scheduled to operate on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. For detailed operating hours, please refer to the city's website ✨Subject to change or cancellation due to bad weather or other reasons.  
 Fees: 1,000 Yen for High school students and above.  
 500 Yen for Elem. & Jr. High school students.



## SAKURA NO AKI MATSURI

### Sakura Autumn Festival

October 13 (Fri) ~ 15 (Sun)  
 From 15:00 to 22:00 on all three days

For the first time in 5 years, the festival will be held for three consecutive days in the castle town area. The highlights of this year are the parade of Makata Shrine's Omikoshi (Great portable shrine), the Dashi (Traditional parade floats) and the procession of the Omikisho (Sacred sake floats). Take a look at the Nibancho historic floats and dolls that were revived last year!



### Schedule:

The parade will be held on Shinmachi Street and surrounding areas.

◆ **First day, October 13 (Friday):**

The Makata Shrine's Omikoshi (Parade float) leaves the shrine around 3:00 PM. Dashi floats and Omikisho are pulled and parade into the town.

◆ **Second day, October 14 (Saturday):**

Dashi and Omikisho floats parade around the town.

◆ **Third day, October 15 (Sunday):**

Dashi and Omikisho floats parade around the town. The Makata Shrine's Omikoshi is carried, departing from Otabisho at 4:00 PM and returns to Makata Shrine at around 9:40 PM.

Sakura Autumn Festival Website →



### AUTUMN FESTIVAL CALENDARS ON SALE!



Price: 1,000 Yen  
 Limited to 600 copies



Sales locations/inquiries:

Sakura City Tourism Association ☎ 486-6000  
 Sakura Chamber of Commerce ☎ 486-2331  
 Makata Shrine ☎ 484-0392

Please be informed that the parking lot at Yume Sakura-kan will not be available from October 12 (Thur) at 20:00 until Oct. 15 (Sun) all day.



Inquiries for both events on this page at the Sakura City Tourism Association ☎ 486-6000

# Kusabue-no-Oka Autumn Events!

- ◆ **Model toy train and track system (Pla-rail)** ▪ Railroad photo exhibition. October 7, 8 & 9. ① 10:00 ~ 12:00 ② 13:30 ~ 15:30. Free of charge.
  - ◆ **Autumn workshop event:** Making handicrafts using natural materials ▪ Autumn wild flowers observation and making 'shinodake' bamboo wooden guns. October 22 & November 5. ① 10:00 ~ 12:00 ② 13:00 ~ 15:00 Cost: 300 Yen per person.
  - ◆ **Rose garden event.** Enjoy rose viewing from early October to early November.
  - ◆ **'Fūsha' Accordion ensemble concert.** October 21 & November 3 ① 11:00 ~ ② 13:30 ~ At the Rose Terrace. Free of charge.
  - ◆ **Tole painting lessons.** October 21 & November 3. ① 10:00 ~ 12:00 ② 13:00 ~ 15:00. Cost: 400 Yen ~ 1,000 Yen For ages 4 years old and above. ※ The lessons end when supplies run out.
  - ◆ **Clay crafts Sales.** October 21 & November 3. 10:00 ~ 12:00 / 13:00 ~ 15:00. Fee: 300 Yen
  - ◆ **Drum Festival.** October 28 & 29. Enjoy two days of drumming sounds by gathering drum groups.
- Park information: ☎ 485-7821 ● 9:00 ~ 17:00 (Last admission 16:00) ● Fees: Adults 410 Yen, Children 100 Yen (Elem. And Jr. High School). Free for kindergarten children or younger
- Fees to the events are paid separately.

**Please inquire at the venue for more fun events!**

## Autumn Kimono Walk

- ◆ **Schedule:** Oct. 22 & 29. Nov. 3, 5, 12 & 19. Dec. 3 (Reservation required)
- ◆ **Time:** 10:00 ~ 13:00 (Reception every 30 minutes)
- ◆ **Location:** At the former Hirai residence.
- ◆ **Rentals:** 4,000 Yen for Jr. High School ~ adults. 3,000 Yen for Elementary school or younger. For those who bring their own kimono the cost is 2,000 Yen. ※ Those who arrive wearing a kimono on the scheduled days will have a free entrance to the Former Lord Hotta residence, Buke-ya Shiki (Samurai residences) and Sakura Juntendō Memorial Building.
- ◆ **Inquiries:** Sakura Ichirizuka ☎/Fax 489-7844 Email: yksaku411115@nifty.com

## Samurai Walk & Tea Ceremony

*Let's walk around the town dressed as a Samurai!*

- ◆ **Schedule:** Oct. 7 & 21. Nov. 11 & 25. From 9:30 ~ 12:30 / 7,000 Yen (Includes admission fee)
  - Experience Zazen and Tea ceremony in a kimono!*
  - ◆ **Schedule:** Oct. 3, 9, 20 & 26 Nov. 1, 7, 17, 23 & 29. From 9:30 ~ 12:30 / 7,000 Yen (facility admission fee and lunch included).
- Please apply by phone or email:  
Sakura City Tourism Association, ☎ 486-6000  
✉ sakurashi-kankou@catv296.ne.jp



## Nursery School Admission January – March 2024 / April 2024

First, please reserve your application date and time using one of the methods below. At a later date and time notified by the city, please come to the City Hall to complete your application at the reception venue: Second Building, Child Care Section (Kodomo Hoiku-ka) on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor.

- ① Reservations (can only be made through the following methods)
  - ◆ Internet reservations: October 2 (Mon) from 10:00 ~ to November 30 (Thur). Please make the Reservation using the Chiba electronic application service ① →
  - ◆ Counter reservations: December 1 (Fri) to December 8 (Fri). As a general rule, we cannot accept applications for in-person reservations on the same day.
- ② Admission application window reception period: November 16 (Thur) to December 8 (Fri). You can apply online from the QRC ② without making a reservation. Online application period: Nov. 16 ~ 30.



- If you wish to have a nursery school outside the city, please contact the section in charge of the desired municipality as well as the Sakura City Hall, Child Care Division in advance. (Application documents and deadlines vary depending on the municipality).
  - If you wish to enroll in April 2024, applications will be accepted twice in April but only those schools that do not have capacity in the 1<sup>st</sup> screening will be eligible for the 2<sup>nd</sup> screening.
- For details on applying for admission and the recruitment schedule from April 2024 onwards, please visit the city website or contact the Child Care Section, ☎ 484-6245

## Kindergarten Enrollment for 2024 – The application period begins soon!

**Target children:** Younger ages (Nenshō) to older ages (Nenchō). Please contact each nursery school regarding admission to classes for children under 3 years old.

### Private Kindergarten:

- Application distribution: October 16 (Mon) ~
- Reception period: November 1 (Wed) ~



### Certified Nursery School:

- Application forms distributed October 16 (Mon) ~
- ※ Currently being distributed for “Montessori Hikari no Ko” and “Yoshimi Hikari no Ko Montessori Children’s Home”
- Application period: November 1 (Wed) ~
- ※ Applications for “Montessori Hikari no Ko” are accepted any time. Yoshimi Hikari no Ko Montessori Children’s Home will start accepting Applications from October 2 (Mon)



For details, please contact each nursery school directly.



# Climate change countermeasures - Sakura City is working on them!

In recent years, natural disasters caused by abnormal weather such as floods, droughts and heat waves have occurred frequently in various parts of the world and various phenomena caused by climate change caused by global warming have become a problem. Countermeasures against climate change include:

**Mitigation**, which involves reducing emissions of greenhouse gases that cause climate change.



Examples of Mitigation Measures

Examples of Adaptation Measures

**Adaptation**, which involves making changes to our lives and society to avoid or reduce the damage caused by climate change.

If global warming continues at its current rate, climate-related risks will become more serious for people's livelihoods and natural ecosystems.

The city will work with citizens and businesses to address climate change, which will have a serious impact on our lives, through both mitigation and adaptation.

FIELD		MAIN IMPACTS EXPECTED IN THE FUTURE
	Agriculture Forestry Fisheries	Poor crop growth. Increase in pests and diseases.
	Water environment, resources	Deterioration of water quality in rivers and lakes, worsening drought.
	Natural ecosystem	Shrinking distribution of rare animals and plants. Invasion and colonization of alien species.
	Natural disasters	Increase in floods and expansion of flooded areas. Occurrence of landslides.
	Health	Increase in heatstroke patients.
	Industrial/ Economic activities	Impact on the tourism industry. Damage to production equipment due to disasters.
	Civic Life	Power outages and Water outages due to heavy rain. Effects of heat on life.

※Source: Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform.

**COMMENTS BY MR. SANGO NISHITA, SAKURA CITY MAYOR**

**Towards the realization of "Sustainable City Sakura"**

Reasons why Sakura City is working against climate change. Located at the farthest reaches of Imbanuma lake, strengthening flood control functions is one of the local issues. Heavy rains in October 2019 caused major damage, including flooding of roads and landslides.

In recent years, due to the effects of global warming and other factors, the risk of river flooding has increased, including more frequent torrential rains. Our role as a local government is to protect the lives of our citizens and create a city where they can live with peace of mind and we have decided to be the first municipality in the prefecture to take steps against climate change.

We will promote initiatives that will serve as a model for surrounding municipalities.

Sakura City has abundant greenery that can absorb carbon dioxide, which is a cause of global warming. In addition, many citizens and businesses are already engaged in activities to conserve local greenery such as Satoyama and bamboo forests, and the city as a whole is working as one to promote climate change countermeasures. The keyword for solving global environmental problems such as climate change and global warming is "Think Globally, Act Locally". While borrowing the scientific knowledge of related research institutions such as the National Institute for Environmental Studies (the country's climate change adaptation center), we will build on familiar initiatives and lead to the realization of a "Sustainable City Sakura".

A "Climate Change Countermeasures Preparation Office" has been established. In order to establish a regional climate change adaptation center that will play a role in analyzing and providing information on the effects of climate change in Sakura City, we will consider measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change while collaborating with related organizations. Based on the results of this review, we will formulate a specific business plan and will announce it within this fiscal year.

Climate Change Countermeasures Preparation Office (Planning Policy Division) ☎ 484-3374



## NOTICE OF COLLECTIVE SCREENINGS FOR BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCERS

Reservations for collective breast & cervical cancer screenings are being accepted from October 2 (Mon), first-come, first-served. Eligible targets are:

◆ **Breast cancer screening:** Women 30 years and older who did not undergo collective examination as well as mammography screening in the previous fiscal year. The examination will be conducted as follows:

- Group in their 30's will receive an ultrasound examination.
- Group in their 40's will receive a mammography examination.

◆ **Cervical cancer screening:** Women 20 years and older who did not take this screening in the previous fiscal year.

### How to make a reservation:

Please send a postcard, fax, through the internet or at the counter of any of the city's health centers. Please check the schedule, venue and details of time of reservation in the city homepage or in the Sakura City Examination Information enclosed in your Health Checkup slip. ※A consultation ticket is required for the examination. If you have not received the consultation ticket, please contact the Kenkō Kanri Center.



## LET'S GET A COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING



In 2022, colorectal cancer was detected in the screenings of 29 people in Sakura City. In Japan, 1 in two people are diagnosed with cancer, one in 4 males and 1 in 6 females have died. Colorectal cancer is the number one cause of death in women and the second in men. Cancer has no subjective symptoms in the early stages but with prompt detection and treatment, more than 95% of patients are cured. Therefore, it is important to have regular screenings even if you do not have such subjective symptoms.

◆ **Target people:** Those 40 years old or above as of March 31, 2024.

◆ **Individual examination:** Until December 10, 2023 at cooperating medical institutions. Reservation required. Fee: 1,000 Yen.

◆ **Collective checkup:** Until March 11, 2024 at an assigned examination location. Fee: 400 Yen. For checkup dates, venues, etc. please visit the website.

※ Stool containers are distributed at the counter of each health center when undergoing collective screenings. In the case of individual examination, please pick up the container at the medical institution of your choice.

※ Those who received the examination ticket set in May~June and have a stool collection container please be aware that it can only be used until February 2024.



Kenkō Suishin-ka (Health Promotion Section) ☎485-6711



## ROUTINE INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS



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



The low-cost program of influenza vaccinations for senior citizens starts on **October 1 (Sun) and will be available through December 31 (Sun), 2023.** Flu symptoms may become more severe in older people. Getting vaccinated before the flu epidemic begins is effective and highly recommended. There are no restrictions on the interval between the coronavirus vaccine and the influenza vaccine but please note that the interval between these and other vaccinations should be of at least 2 weeks.

Eligible people can be inoculated at a reduced cost of 1,500 yen at any cooperative medical institution in Sakura City as well as in Chiba Prefecture. (※Free for citizens on welfare. Please obtain a Welfare Recipient Certificate in advance at the City Hall, *Shakai Fukushi-ka* (the Social Welfare Section) and bring it to the medical institution on the vaccination day. Eligible people are:

① Citizens aged 65 years old and over, those born between October 2, 1958 ~ January 1, 1959 (It is possible to vaccinate on the day prior to your birthday) Aside from those dates, you will be responsible for the full vaccination amount.

② Citizens aged 60-64 years who have a 'Physical Disability Certificate' (Level 1) due to heart, kidney, respiratory diseases, etc. (A prior call is necessary for those in this group who would like to receive the vaccination.)

※To those who will turn 65 years old between October 2 ~ December 15 this year we will notify you after your birthday.

## CORONAVIRUS VACCINATION UPDATE



The autumn Corona vaccinations have started on Wednesday, September 20 (Wed). Eligible people received cream-colored vaccination tickets by early September. Factors such as the interval from the last vaccination date as well as age have been considered.

As soon as you receive your vaccination ticket, please follow the steps below to make a reservation. ※Please note that the white and pink vaccination tickets cannot be used for the autumn 2023 vaccinations. For details, please check the city website or inquire at the Health Promotion Section ☎ 485-6711

◆ **Eligible people:** Those who are 6 months old or older after completing the first vaccination and 3 months or more after the last vaccination date.

◆ **Vaccine details:** Monovalent vaccine compatible with Omicron strain (XBB.1.5).

◆ **Reservation:** Please make a reservation when you receive your vaccination ticket by calling:

◆ **The New Corona Vaccination Call Center**  
☎0120-387-052 - 8:30 ~ 17:00 Hours  
(Including Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays).

◆ **Reservations can be made directly with a medical institution.** Please refer to the instructions enclosed with the vaccination ticket.

◆ **Vaccination reservation site** →

