



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** and, 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.

Sakura City Grand Industrial Exposition 2023 November 11 (Saturday) ~ 12 (Sunday)

ENJOY “SEEING”, “BUYING”, “EXPERIENCING” A LARGE GATHERING OF SAKURA’S COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE AND WELFARE!



Place: Sakura Kusabue-no-Oka. **Time:** 9:00 ~ 15:00 **Fare:** 100 Yen (Free of charge to those who have an annual passport, High School students and younger as well as those with a disability certificate). ※Rain or shine the event will take place but canceled in case of extreme weather conditions.



HOW TO ARRIVE:

- 🚌 On the days of the event, free shuttle buses will operate between the North Exit of Keisei Sakura Station and the venue, from 8:45 until 16:00. Please check the timetable on the website →
- 🚌 You can also take the Sakura City Community bus (200 Yen) or the Uchigo Route (get off at Kusabue-no-Oka bus stop) from Keisei Sakura Station, North Exit.
- ⚠️ The parking is limited, so if possible, please use public transportation. Also, please note that surrounding roads may be congested.

The city's industrial and economic organizations, agricultural, welfare and other organizations will be exhibiting to introduce the appeal of commerce, industry and agriculture to everyone. In addition to enjoying products, special products, technologies and services at each booth, we will also hold a keyword rally where you can win wonderful prizes! There will be lots of events at the venue!



Inquiries: Sakura Industrial Exposition Executive Committee Secretariat

Agricultural Administration Section ☎ 043-484-6141
Commerce and Industry Promotion Section ☎ 043-484-6145
Welfare Section for Persons with Disabilities ☎ 043-484-4164

The 41st Sakura Marathon - participants' recruitment starts soon!

Enjoy the spring and beautiful scenery of the windmill and Imbanuma lake surroundings while running! (The full marathon portion of this event is the only one officially certified by the Japan Association of Athletics Federation (JAAF) in the prefecture).

- ▶**Marathon's date & place:** March 24, 2024 (Sun) – Rain or shine. The course starts at Iwana Undō Kōen/Koide Yoshio Kinen Rikujō Kyōgijō (Iwana Sports Park / Koide Yoshio Athletics Stadium).
- ▶**Registration period:** Nov. 15 (Wed) ~ Dec. 28 (Thur)
- ▶**Maximum number of entrants:** Full marathon: 6,000 people, 10 km: 2,500 people, 3 km: 1,500 people. ※First-come, first-served on all categories.
- ▶**Eligibility:** • Those registered with the Japan Association of Athletics Federation and general competitors. • Those who can comply with the tournament rules, are healthy and able to complete the applicable race within the time limit. ※Those under the age of 18 require parental consent.
- ▶**How to register:** Via internet through the website <http://runnet.jp/> (Please pay the entry fee at a convenience store or with a credit card). ※Once the fee has been paid, no refund can be made.
- ▶**Inquiries:** Sakura Marathon Executive Committee, Shōgai Spōtsu-ka (Sports-for-All) ☎ 485-2929.
- ▶**Entry fees and age limit:**



Category	Age limit	Fare (Yen)	Category	Age limit	Fare (Yen)
Full marathon 42,195 km	18 years & above	9,500	3 km	Fun Run High School students & above ※No awards.	3,000
10 km (general)	16 years & above	5,500		Jr. High school students	2,500
	High school students	4,000		Elementary school students	2,000
10 km (residents)	16 years & above	4,000	※On the day of the competition there may be divisions based on age.		

Sakura City celebrates Culture Day on November 16

On November 16, 1833, Masamutsu Hotta, the feudal lord of Sakura, declared a reform of the domain government. The city thus has designated this day which marked the beginning of academic rise in the Sakura Domain as "Sakura City Education Day" and has been working for the development and enhancement of education. Related cultural events will be held around the city.

CULTURAL PROPERTY FACILITIES

Take this opportunity to visit important cultural assets in the city

Date & Time: Nov. 16, 9:00 ~ 17:00. Free entrance on this day at the following places:

- ◆ **Bukeyashiki** · Samurai residences.
- ◆ **Kyū Hotta Tei** · Former Residence of Feudal Lord Hotta (National cultural property).
- ◆ **Sakura Juntendo Memorial Building** · Memorial hall (Prefecture designated historic site)

Inquiries: Bunka-ka (Culture Section) ☎ 484-6192

CHILDREN'S SCIENCE WORKS EXHIBITION

Date: November 25 & 26 (Sat & Sun) 10:00 ~ 17:00

Location: Nishi Shizu Fureai Center

※ Application required ◆ Free admission.

Inquiries: Shidō-ka (School Guidance Section)
☎ 484-6185

ENJOY LIFE WITH THE CHARM OF BAMBOO CRAFTS

Education course for adults. Participants will experience learning and making bamboo baskets using traditional techniques.

Date & Time: December 3 (Sun) 9:30 ~ Until noon. ※ Application required ◆ Free of charge but a fee of 500 Yen for materials applies. Capacity for 30 people.

Location: Chūo Kominkan (Central Community Center)
Inquiries: Chūo Kominkan ☎ 485-1801



YUME SAKURA-KAN HISTORICAL EVENTS

- ◆ The world of Edo as seen from a castle map.
- ◆ Walk through the castle town of Sakura.



Based on the "Sōshū Sakura Gojōfunai no Zu", a two-part lecture will be imparted, one explaining the world of Sakura Castle in the middle of the Edo period and the other walking through the castle town, which still retains the vestiges of those days.

① **Date & time:** November 19 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 11:30

Content: Interpretation of Sōshū Sakura Imperial Castle interior map.

Lecturer: Kawana Tadashi (Associate professor, Faculty of Letters, Kokugakuin University).

② **Date & time:** November 26 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 12:00

Content: Walking around the castle town of Sakura.

Venue: Yume Sakura-kan

Capacity: 30 members (Those who can participate in both ① & ②). A lottery will be drawn in case of a large number of participants.

Cost: 150 Yen

Application: Chiba electronic service →

Application deadline: November 14.

Inquiries: Sakura Public Library

☎ 485-0106



CERAMIC ARTIST: WADA AKIRA

This is the first large-scale solo exhibition of artist Wada who has a kiln in Sakura City. Porcelain works, sculptures, prints, etc. from his student days to his latest works are introduced.

Date: Until December 24 (Sun)

Location: Sakura City Museum of Art, 2nd & 3rd Floor exhibition rooms.

Admission: 600 Yen Adults. 400 Yen High School and University students. Free of charge for Jr. High school students and under. Free admission on November 16 (Thursday).

Museum Information: Open from 10:00 ~ 18:00 (Last entrance 17:30)

Holidays: Closed on Mondays. (Opens on public holidays but will close on the next day.)

Inquiries: Sakura City Museum of Art ☎ 485-7851



INTRODUCTORY HISTORY COURSE

The history of the Yatomi area, Kofun Period ~ Heian period as told by an excavator of ruins. The Yatomi area, located in the southern part of Sakura City, is a land where people have lived since ancient times.

Date: December 3 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 11:30 ※ Application required, reservations accepted until Nov. 24 (Fri). ※ Free admission. For Jr. High School students & above. Capacity: 20 people, first-come, first-served.

Location: Yatomi Community Center.

Inquiries: Yatomi Community Center ☎ 498-0860

HOLDING SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

On November 3 (Friday/holiday)
at:

- ◆ Sakura Juntendo Kinenkan (Sakura Juntendo Memorial Building)
- ◆ Buke-ya Shiki (Samurai houses)
- ◆ Kyū Hotta Tei (Former residence of Feudal Lord Hotta)

You will be able to view valuable materials and tour around rooms that are normally closed to the public.

◆ At the former Tajima Samurai residence, an armor fitting event will be held. (10:00 ~ 12:00 & 13:00 ~ 15:00) Fees: 200 Yen/adults, 100 Yen/students.

※ Separate admission fee required.

※ The last admittance is 30 minutes before closing.

◆ Former Lord Hotta residence. (9:30 ~ 16:30)
Fees: 350 Yen/adults, 170 Yen/students.

◆ Samurai residences: (9:00 ~ 17:00).
Fees: 250 Yen/adults, 120 Yen/students.

◆ Sakura Juntendo Kinenkan. (9:00 ~ 17:00)
Fees: 100 Yen/adults, 50 Yen/students.

※ Elementary and Jr. High school students have free admission on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

Inquiries:

Bunka-ka (Cultural Promotion Section)

☎ 484-6192

AIMING TO ENSURE TAX FAIRNESS

Efforts are being taken to sort out delinquent city taxes to ensure tax fairness and securing financial resources.

Taxes are an important source of revenue for making our city more prosperous and livable and taxes must be paid voluntarily by the established deadline.

Delinquent tax collection is a series of operations performed when municipal taxes (city/prefectural tax, property tax/city planning tax, light vehicle tax, National Health Insurance tax, etc.) are not paid by the due date.

In order to maintain fairness in the tax burden, the city has not only provided prompt tax payment guidance through the Tax Payment Information Center, which was launched in fiscal year 2021, but also worked with collection counselors who have specialized knowledge to help sort out delinquent taxpayers.

Inquiries: Saiken Kanri-ka (Credit Management Section) ☎ 484-6118

INTRODUCING INITIATIVES TO ELIMINATE DELINQUENCY



If you are having trouble paying your taxes, please consult us as soon as possible.

If you are temporarily unable to pay your taxes by the due date because of unavoidable reasons such as illness, unemployment or business closure, please be sure to contact us before the due date.

We provide consultation on payment plans to complete payment, including interviews about living conditions. If you do not consult with us, your situation may not be understood and your property may be seized. Please don't leave things as they are, make it a priority to seek advice.

Inquiries: Shizei no sōdan (City tax consultation) Saiken Kanri-ka (Credit Management Section) ☎ 484-6118. Consultation hours: 9:00 ~ 16:30

In Fiscal Year 2023, we are particularly strengthening efforts to sort out delinquent tax payments for the current year (delinquent payments before next year's tax is levied). In the city, the Tax Payment Information Center provides tax payment guidance for those who are in the early stages of delinquency.

In Fiscal Year 2022, guidance results are as follows: Telephone information 2,910 cases. Document information 8,805 items.

Summary of Sakura City Tax Payment Information Center.

Operations: ◆ After sending a reminder letter for city tax, etc., we will provide payment guidance to those who have not received payment confirmation for approximately one month by telephone or in writing and will mainly notify those who have forgotten to pay. We are making early efforts to reach out the

public. ◆ The center also reissues lost city tax payment slips and sends application forms for account transfers.

TAX PAYMENT INFORMATION HOURS

On weekdays (excluding holidays, year-end and on the second Sunday). New Year Holidays: 9:00 ~ 17:00 ☎ 484-6117

⚠ If you do not pay your taxes by the due date, you will be charged a late fee in addition to the actual tax. The rate of late fees is much higher than the interest rate on deposits at banks, etc. In 2023, the rate of late fees is 2.4% per annum until one month has passed from the day after the payment deadline and after that the rate of late fees is much higher, 8.7% per annum.

FLOW OF DELINQUENCY DISPOSAL

- ① Sending of tax notices. If payment is not made within the deadline:
- ② A reminder is sent. If the payment is still not made:
- ③ A property investigation is carried out, investigating financial institutions, workplaces, life insurance companies, etc.
- ④ Seizure: Property, deposit savings, salary, life insurance, real estate, etc.
- ⑤ Collection: Seized property is converted into cash and applied to taxes.

NOVEMBER IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH!

Child abuse is an act that injures the mind and body of a child and violates human rights. Early discovery and support will protect children and families. If you notice any worrisome signs or have concerns about child rearing, please contact the consultation counter. You can report abuse anonymously. Even if the result turned out not to be abuse, you will not be held liable. The confidentiality will be protected.

Child abuse consultation counters:

- ▶ Kodomo katei-ka ☎ 484-6263 (On weekdays from 8:30 ~ 17:15)
- ▶ Children's Counseling Center in Chiba Prefecture ☎ 253-4101 (On weekdays from 9:00~17:00) ☎ 252-1152 (24 hours).
- ▶ Children's consultation center nationwide Dial ☎ 189 (*ichi-haya-ku*) (24 hours).

CHILDREN'S MEDICAL EXPENSES SUBSIDY FOR HOSPITAL VISITS AND HOSPITALIZATIONS

In order to support families raising children, medical expense subsidies for hospital visits and hospitalization, which were previously available to children up to the third year of Jr. High School, will be extended starting November 1st to children of the equivalent age of High School until March 31 after the child turns 18 years old.

You will need a receipt to receive the subsidy. If you have not yet applied for a benefit ticket, please do so as soon as possible.

To receive the subsidy from November 1, 2023, please complete the application procedure by December 1, 2023. After this date, qualification will be granted from the date of application.

For details, please view the website→
Inquiries: Kodomo Katei-ka (Child & Family Support Section) ☎ 484-6140



School supplies expenses will be provided for children entering Elementary School!



To be eligible for this benefit, applicants will have to fall under all the following items:

- ① Those who are in financial distress (of income) to an extent equivalent to public assistance. (Households where the total income of all members of the household is less than 1.3 times the standard amount of public assistance. ※Those who are already on welfare are not eligible for this benefit. ※If tax declaration is not filed, it cannot be certified.
- ② Parents of new first graders who will enter Public Elementary School in April, 2024. If you are unsure about where to enroll your child, please consult us.
- ③ Those living in Sakura City as of March 1, 2024.

Deadline: January 12, 2024 (Friday). Application must arrive on or before this date.

Amount to be paid: 54,060 Yen. The payment will arrive in March, 2024.

※For those residing in the city, the “Information for medical check-ups before entering school” Was sent around September. (For detailed and required documents, please contact us).



How to apply: The application can be downloaded from the city’s homepage →

※For school supplies costs for new enrollment in a Jr. High School, please use the city’s school attendance assistance system. Payment will be made at the end of the third semester to current 6th grade elementary school students eligible for certification. **Inquiries: Gakumu-ka (School Affairs Section) ☎ 484-6186**

DX PROMOTION INITIATIVES

Towards a more convenient Sakura City through digitalization



Sakura City is promoting digitalization based on the “Sakura City DX Promotion Policy” with the following slogans: ① Everyone can “connect” with the City Hall anytime, anywhere and ② DX can “power up” the City Hall.

What is DX? Digital transformation – by effectively utilizing digital technology and data, we aim to improve convenience for residents, improve operational efficiency and use financial and human resources to further improve administrative services.

When paying fees, etc, cashless payment is now available!

From November 1, cashless payments will be available at the following counters:

Reception window	Applicable fees, etc.
Citizens Division, City Hall Building 1, 1 st floor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of resident record • Seal registration certificate • Copy of family register, extract, etc.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Tax Division • Property Tax Division • Credit Management Division City Hall, Building 1, 2 nd Floor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxation certificate • Tax certificate • Certificate of information, etc.
Shizu Branch office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of resident record • Seal registration certificate • Taxation certificate, etc.

※Excluding payment of public funds via payment slip.

Available payment methods:

- ◎Credit card. *One-time payment only.
VISA, Mastercard, JCB, AMERICAN EXPRESS, Diners Club.
- ◎Electronic money. *Charging at the counter and non-refundable.
Rakuten Edy, nanaco, WAON, QUICPay, transportation (Suica, PASMO, etc.)
- ◎QR Code payment.
au PAY, d Pay, J-Coin Pay, Merpay, PayPay, Rakuten Pay, Alipay, WeChat Pay.

※Cash and cashless payments cannot be used together for the same payment.

※Counters where cashless payments can be used from January 2024. (We are planning to expand).



For details, please access the QRC →

Inquiries: Jōhō Shisutemu-ka (Information Systems Section) ☎ 484-6107

If you find something abnormal on the road, you can report it on LINE App!

You can now report abnormalities such as road damage, dirt and fallen objects, etc. through situation photos and location obtained from your mobile phone and reporting to The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism’s LINE App. The current target area is roads within Chiba Prefecture. Reports can be made 24 hours a day but receipt confirmation will be made during office hours (8:30 ~ 17:15 on weekdays).

Install the LINE App on your mobile phone and add as a friend the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, road emergency, dial (#9910) For details, please access the QRC →

Inquiries: Dōro Iji-ka (Road Maintenance Section) ☎ 484-6152



SAKURA YOCHIEN (SAKURA KINDERGARTEN) ENROLLMENT

Childcare period: 1 + 2 years. **Application distribution:** Until November 7 (Tue). **Reception period:** Nov. 1 (Wed) ~ Nov 7 (Tue) Excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays on both, application distribution and reception period.

Target: ● Children under 4 years old, born April 2, 2019 ~ April 1, 2020 ● Children under 5 years old, born April 2, 2018 ~ April 1, 2019. **Procedure:** Please come to the nursery school with your child who is eligible for admission (Bring your seal (inkan) and Certificate of residence (Jūmin-Hyō)). For details, please contact: **Sakura Yochien, Kaburagi-cho 934 ☎ 486-1533**