

October 2024

Reiwa 6



HELLO SAKURA

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

10 月
No.419

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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.



Sakura Cosmos Festival



With the Dutch windmill as a background, more than 500,000 cosmos flowers will be in full bloom during the festival.

Place: Sakura Furusato Hiroba Square.
Date: October 5 (Sat) ~ October 20 (Sun)
Time: 9:00 ~ 16:00



◆ 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.

◆ Specialty products will be sold at the venue as well as food and drinks at kitchen cars.

◆ For details about flowering conditions, events, etc., please view the QRC above.

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 above.

※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. Free for younger children

Bicycle rentals:

Available at any of the following places:



① Sakura-shi Kankō Kyōkai (near Keisei Sakura St.) ② Kankō Jōhō Center (at the north exit of JR Sakura Station) ③ At the festival venue ④ San-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. Please check the city's website for details on each venue's reception schedule. ※It is possible to return the bicycle at a different place but a fee will apply.



SAKURA NO AKI MATSURI



Sakura Autumn Festival

October 11 (Fri) ~ 13 (Sun)
From 15:00 to 22:00 on all three days

Schedule:

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

First day, October 11 (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 12 (Saturday):

Dashi and Omikisho floats parade around the town.

Third day, October 13 (Sunday):

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

Please be informed that the parking lot at Yume Sakura-kan will be closed on the following days:
Dai ichi parking:
Oct. 10 ~ Oct. 14 all day.
Dai ni parking:
Oct. 10 from 5 pm ~ Oct. 13 all day. (Times may change depending on the situation).



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

Inquiries for both events on this page:
Sakura shi Kankō Kyōkai (Sakura City Tourism Association) ☎ 486-6000

Inquiries for the Autumn Festival: Sakura-no-Miryoku
Suishin-ka (City's Attractiveness Promotion Section)
☎ 484-6146

MAKE YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE MORE COMFORTABLE WITH DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY. PROCEDURES CAN BE CONVENIENTLY COMPLETED ONLINE!

Advances in digital technology are making our lives more convenient and enriching in many ways. In order to improve convenience for our residents, the city is promoting digitalization so that procedures and information can be smoothly obtained. We take this opportunity to introduce procedures that can be done without the need of going to the City Hall.



No waiting, convenient and cheaper than at the counter! You can obtain certificates such as copies of your resident's certificate at multi-copy machines installed in convenience stores, etc. All you have to do is follow the instructions on the screen and operate the machine so there is no need to fill out an application form like you would at a city hall counter. ※ To obtain a certificate at a convenience store, you will need your My Number card with the electronic user certificate attached. If you do not have a My Number card, please consider obtaining it.

Inquiries: Shimin-ka (Citizens Affairs Section) ☎484-6122



ADVANTAGES:

ANYTIME – The service is available every day from 6:30 AM to 11:00 PM. It can be used whenever necessary even when the City Hall counter is closed (at night or on holidays) ※Excluding the New Year holidays and maintenance times.

ANYWHERE – You can get the certificate from a multi-copy machine at your nearest convenience store anywhere in the country.

CHEAP – You can get the certificate for 50 yen cheaper than if you get it at the City Hall. ※Excluding the certificate of all family register details and the certificate of personal details.

PROCEDURES THAT CAN BE DONE ONLINE WITHOUT GOING TO THE CITY HALL You can carry out administrative procedures online using your computer or smartphone:

■ Chiba Electronic Application Service / My Number Portal. You can apply for the issuance of a city health checkup voucher set, register to participate in courses and events and complete procedures for childcare and nursing care.

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



■ Sakura City facilities' reservation system. You can make reservations and check availability of public facilities (public halls, community centers, camping facilities, etc.)

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



■ Library website book search and reservation. You can search for and reserve (request) books at libraries in the city from the Sakura City Library homepage.

Inquiries: Sakura Toshōkan (Sakura Library) ☎ 485-0106



■ Online payment of city taxes, etc.

You can pay city taxes and other taxes using a smartphone payment app. You can make payments at anytime without having to go to a financial institution.

Inquiries: Saiken Kanri-ka (Credit Management section) ☎ 484-6116



CHECK ONLINE THE COUNTER CONGESTION STATUS AT ANY TIME

You can check how many people are waiting at the counter. Procedures such as moving, filing family register notifications and applying for national health insurance take time, so people often have to wait at the counter. For this reason, from September 1st, the Citizen's Affairs Section and Health and Medical Care section have made it possible to check the number of people waiting from home. This allows you to go when it is less congested and check your turn from a distance. ※ Depending on the procedure, the waiting time may be longer or the turn may be delayed. Scan the QRC with your smartphone and select the counter you wish to check.

※ The QRC is also posted at the City Hall, Citizen's Affairs Section.



SMARTPHONE SEMINARS FOR SENIORS

We will be holding seminars for a wide range of levels covering from basic operations such as how to make a phone call to more advanced functions. Currently accepting applications. Registrations now open for events held until November. For details, please check the city's website or inquire at:

□ Chūō Kominkan, Usui Kominkan, Nego Kominkan, Sakura Minami Toshokan (Sakura-Minami Library):
Tōbu Chiku Uketsuke (Eastern District Reception) ☎ 090-3145-3904
☎ 090-3335-3904

□ Shizu Shimin Plaza:
Seibu Chiku Uketsuke (Western District Reception) ☎ 090-6349-3256
☎ 070-4795-3394

※Please note that the seminars will be conducted in Japanese.



Kusabue-no-Oka Autumn Events!

◆Model train operation, Pla-rail play.

October 12 (Sat) ~ 14 (Mon, Nat. Holiday) ① 9:30 ~ 10:30 ② 11:00 ~ Noon. ③ 13:30 ~ 15:30.

◆Rose garden event.

Enjoy rose viewing from mid-October to early November. Please check the flowering status on the website before visiting.

◆Rose garden guided tour.

October 12 (Sat) ~ Nov. 3 (Sun) 11:00 ~ 11:45. ※ Cancelled in rainy weather. Capacity: 10 people. Not available on Mondays. Inquiries: Bara-en Kanri-shitsu ☎ 080-1239-6992

◆'Fūsha' Accordion ensemble concert.

October 19 & 20 (Sat/Sun) ① 11:00 ~ ② 13:30 ~

◆Tole painting lessons & sales.

October 20 (Sun) & November 2 ~ 4 (Sat, Sun, Mon). ① 10:00 ~ Noon 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 lessons & sales.

October 20 (Sun) & November 2 ~ 4 (Sat, Sun, Mon/National holiday). ① 10:00 ~ Noon ② 13:00 ~ 15:00. Fee: 300 Yen

◆Omochi sales at the old private house.

On Sundays and holidays from October to November 4. 11:00 ~ 15:00. Price: 1 dish 400 yen. Sales end when all is sold out.

◆The 10th Kusabue-no-Oka Drum Festival.

Enjoy two days of drumming sounds! October 26 & 27 (Sat/Sun)
■Drum workshops on both days. 12:15 ~ 14:15 (Reservation required) ※ For elementary school students and above. Fee: 2,000 Yen, includes the drumsticks. Capacity: 30 people. For reservations and more workshops' details, please contact the venue.

Kusabue-no-Oka ☎ 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.
※In case of bad weather, please contact us on the day of the event.

Kimono Walk

◆**Schedule:** Oct. 26 (Sat). Nov. 3 (Sun), 10 (Sun) & 23 (Sat). Dec. 1 (Sun)

◆**Time:** 10:00 ~ 13:00 (Reception every 30 minutes). ※Reservation required.

◆**Location:** At the former Hirai residence.

◆**Rentals:** 4,000 Yen for Jr. High School and above. 3,000 Yen for Elem. 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 ☎ 080-1008-4579 /Fax 489-7844 Email: yksaku411115@nifty.com



Nursery School Admission January – March 2025 / April 2025

In order to reduce congestion at the application venue, please make a reservation for your application date and time using one of the methods below; then, come to the City Hall at the date and time notified to you by the city. ※If you use the online application for the "Pittari Service", you don't need to make a reservation or visit the city office. Please see the website for details →

①Reservations (Online reservations are given priority):

◆Online reservations: October 1 (Tue) from 10:00 ~ to November 30 (Sat). Please make the reservation using the Chiba electronic application service →

◆Counter reservations: December 2 (Mon) to December 9 (Mon)

② **Admission applications.** Application acceptance period: Monday through Friday from November 18 (Mon) to December 9 (Mon) 9:00 to 17:00. ※Only on the weekend of November 30 (Sat) and December 1 (Sun) applications will be accepted.

- Reservations under any other method or after the application acceptance period will not be accepted.
- 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, Childcare Section in advance. (Application forms and deadlines vary depending on the municipality).
- If you wish to enroll in April 2025, applications will be accepted twice in April. However, only those kindergartens that do not reach capacity in the 1st screening will be eligible for the 2nd screening.
- Sakura Nursery school, Shizu Nursery schools and Sennari kindergarten accept children who require medical care on a priority basis. Please contact the Child Care Section at least three months before the desired month of enrollment. (If you wish to enroll in the first period in April, please contact us by Monday, December 9.

Inquiries: Kodomo Hoiku-ka (Childcare Section) ☎ 484-6245

Accepting applications for Senior High School scholarships

Kyōiku Sōmu-ka (General Educational Affairs Section) ☎ 484-6182

The city grants scholarships that do not require repayment to those who are enrolled in High School and find it difficult to complete their studies due to financial reasons. Eligible people are those who fall under all of the following conditions:

- ①Living in Sakura City. ②Graduated from Jr. High School, etc. and enrolled in High School, etc. within the following 4 fiscal years. ③Have earned a grade point average of all the subjects of 3.0 or higher on the 5 grade evaluation system during the third year of Junior High School and is motivated to learn. ④Family income in the previous year was less than 1.3 times the maximum income eligibility level for public assistance and deemed to have financial difficulties in attending Senior High School in this fiscal year. ⑤Have a recommendation letter from the principal of the Junior High School from which the student graduated.

Amount granted: Up to 80,000 Yen per year. **Application deadline:** Until December 27 (Fri).

Applications: The application form can be downloaded from the City's website. Please attach documents and submit to *Kyōiku Sōmu-ka* in the City Hall. ※As for the documents to be attached, please see the website for details or contact us.

LET'S GET A COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING



Early detection of cancer is important! The only test required is a stool test taken over two days. Please get a cancer screening once a year to check your health.

In 2022, colorectal cancer was detected in the screenings of 22 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, 2025.

◆ **Individual examination:** Until December 10, 2024 at cooperating medical institutions. Reservation required. Fee: 1,000 Yen.

◆ **Collective checkup:** Until March 6, 2025 at an assigned examination location. Fee: 400 Yen.

For checkup dates, venues, etc. please check the information attached to the stool collection container, the screening information enclosed with your medical examination ticket set or visit the website →

※ Stool containers are distributed at the counter of each health center.

In the case of individual examination, please pick up the container at the medical institution of your choice.

※ If you do not have a 2024 medical examination ticket set, please apply for one.



Inquiries: Kenkō Suishin-ka (Health Promotion Section) ☎ 497-6750



ROUTINE VACCINATIONS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS INFLUENZA AND CORONAVIRUS BEGIN ON OCTOBER 1ST

Kenkō Suishin-ka (Health Promotion Section) ☎ 312-7688



INFLUENZA	CORONAVIRUS
Common matters:	
Target people: as of the date of vaccination, those who are registered as residents of Sakura City and wish to be vaccinated. Those who are 65 years of age or older as of October 1, 2024, we will send out pre-examination forms so that they arrive by September 30.	
① People 65 years or older (born on or before January 1, 1960).	① People 65 years or older (born on or before April 1, 1960).
Common matters:	
② 60~64 years old, with a disability certificate (Level 1) due to heart, kidney or respiratory problems. If you fall under category ② and wish to be vaccinated, please contact us.	
The low-cost program of influenza vaccinations for senior citizens starts on <i>October 1 and will be available through January 31, 2025.</i>	Coronavirus vaccinations start on <i>October 1 and will be available through March 31, 2025.</i>
Cost: 1,500 Yen	Cost: 3,500 Yen
※ Those who will turn 65 between October 2 and January 1, 2025 – forms will be sent the day after your birthday.	※ Those who will turn 65 between October 2 and March 15, 2025 – forms will be sent the day after your birthday. ※ Those who will turn 65 between March 16, 2025 ~ April 1, 2025 and wish to be inoculated, please contact us.
Common matters:	
◆ Vaccinations are optional to those who are not covered by the above, but the full cost will be borne by the individual. ◆ Eligible people can be inoculated at any cooperative medical institution in Sakura City as well as in Chiba Pref. ◆ Free for citizens on welfare. Please obtain a Welfare Recipient Certificate in advance and bring it to the medical institution on the vaccination day.	

NOTICE OF COLLECTIVE SCREENINGS FOR BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCERS

Reservations for collective breast & cervical cancer screenings are being accepted from October 1 (Tue) From 9:00 ~ Breast cancer is more common in women in their 30's and cervical cancer in women in their 20's. Get screened for early detection.

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:

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

How to make a reservation:

Online reservation, fax, mail or at the counter of each health center. For information on testing methods and schedules, please check the city's website → or the "Sakura City Examination Guide" 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 Health Management Center.

Inquiries: Kenkō Kanri Center (Health Management Center)

☎ 497-6750

