

July 2025

Reiwa 7



HELLO SAKURA



7

No. 428

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

☎(043) 484-1111 or (043) 484-6103; Fax:(043) 486-8720; E-mail: koho@city.sakura.lg.jp; URL: https://www.city.sakura.lg.jp

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 **Mondays**, 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 the City Hall and/or other city facilities. Therefore, when making inquiries, please be accompanied by someone who speaks Japanese.



SUMMER FUN EVENTS!

Kusabue-no-Oka : July / August Activities

ACTIVITY	Date/Time/Cost
Tanabata – Draw your wish on a strip of paper! Reservation not required – Free of charge	July 1 (Tue) ~ July 7 (Mon)
Water play fountain mat (for small children) Reservation not required – Free of charge	July 19 (Sat) ~ Aug. 31 (Sun)
Glass painting lesson (20 on each day) ES↑	July 28 (Mon)/Aug. 26 (Tue) 10:00~12:00 800 Yen
Haniwa making (unglazed) (20) ES↑(3 graders and below require guardians)	Aug. 1 (Fri) 10:00~12:00 1,000 Yen
Plant specimen making (20 on each day) ES↑	Aug. 4 (Mon)/Aug. 11(Mon-National Holiday) 10:00~12:00 500 Yen
Bamboo basket making (20) ES↑(3 graders and above). Guardians required.	Aug. 5 (Tue) 10:00~12:00 500 Yen
Observation of forest creatures(20) ES↑(3 graders and below require guardians)	Aug. 6 (Wed) 10:00~12:00 (Cancelled if it rains)

ACTIVITY	Date/Time/Cost
Earthenware making (20) ES↑ (3 graders and below require guardians)	Aug 7 (Thur) 10:00~12:00 1,000 Yen
Making bamboo guns (20) ES↑ (3 graders and below require guardians)	Aug. 10 (Sun) 10:00~12:00 300 Yen
Science experiment craft (20) 4 th grade ES↑	Aug. 17 (Sun) 10:00~12:00 300 Yen
Kaleidoscope making (20) ES↑ Reservation not required Ends as soon as materials run out.	Aug. 12 (Tue) 10:00~ 500 Yen (First come, first served)
Railway course (12) ES↑ ~Railway lovers gathering~	Aug. 27 (Wed) 10:00~12:00 500 Yen

KUSABUE-NO-OKA PARK INFORMATION: ☎485-7821

- ① In addition to the event fee, a separate admission fee will be charged. ② If not listed, reservations to the events are required (free of charge). ③ Reservations start at 9:00 on July 1 (Tue) (First-come, first-served). ④ For details on necessary items to bring, etc., please call the venue or access the website →
●(20) = Number of applicants ● ES↑ = Elementary school students and above.



Community Centers' Summer Events ※Please call each facility for details.

Chūo Kōminkan ☎ 485-1801

Sakura Charmant Wind Orchestra – Family Concert
July 20 (Sun) from 14:00 ~ (Doors open at 13:30).
All seats are non-reserved. No reservations required. **Place:** Chūo Kōminkan.

Let's play with flowers – Ikebana class. →
July 26 (Sat) and 27 (Sun). ※Same content on each day. 10:00~12:00
Fee: 600 Yen. For Elementary School children. **Capacity:** 10 people per session (Please apply using the application form on the city's official website or by phone. If the number exceeds a lottery will be drawn). **Deadline:** July 10 (Thur). **Place:** Chūo Kōminkan.

Window glass drawing workshop. →
"Let's draw the big ocean world!"
July 23 (Wed) 10:00~12:00
Fee: 500 Yen. For elementary school children and their guardians, living in Sakura City. **Capacity:** 20 groups (1 group up to 4 people). (Please apply through the Chiba Electronic Service. If the number exceeds a lottery will be drawn). **Deadline:** July 15 (Tue). **Place:** Chūo Kōminkan.



Nego Kōminkan ☎ 486-3147

Junior Disaster Prevention Day Camp. →
July 29 (Tue) 9:30~15:30
Fee: 300 Yen. **Capacity:** 18 people. (Please apply through the Chiba Electronic Service. If the number exceeds a lottery will be drawn). **Target:** 4th grade Elementary School ~ 3rd grade of Jr. High School. **Deadline:** July 15 (Tue). **Place:** Nego Kōminkan.

Wada Kōminkan ☎ 498-0417

Wada Hataori Parent and Child experience.
July 26 (Sat) 10:00~12:00 and 13:00~15:00. **Target:** 3rd grade Elementary School ~ 3rd grade of Jr. High School (*) and their parents. (*)Only Jr. High School students can participate. 6 groups per session. **Deadline:** July 10 (Thur). **Place:** Wada Hometown Museum.

Shizu Kōminkan ☎ 487-5064

Work experience learning from local craftsmen – What they want to be when they grow up.
Aug. 3 (Sun) 10:00~12:00. **Target:** Elementary School children living in Sakura City. **Capacity:** 20 people. (Please apply through the Chiba Electronic Service. If the number exceeds a lottery will be drawn). **Deadline:** July 15 (Tue). **Place:** Shizu Kōminkan.



More fun activities at Chūo Kōminkan, Nego Kōminkan, Shizu Kōminkan, Wada Kōminkan and Usui Kōminkan!
Please check the *Kōhō Sakura* July 1st issue, Japanese version.



NO MATTER HOW OLD YOU ARE, LIVE A LIVELY, FUN AND SECURE LIFE. ~ COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND WELFARE SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY ~

Sakura City efforts in supporting an aging society.

Currently, the aging rate in Sakura City is 33.7%, meaning that approximately one in three people is 65 years old or older. The number of elderly people living alone and households consisting of only elderly people is also increasing. The city supports community activities and provides a variety of welfare services to ensure that elderly people are able to live vibrant, true to themselves and with peace of mind, without feeling isolated.

Inquiries: Kōreisha Fukushi-ka (Senior Citizens' Welfare Section) ☎ 484-6343

Providing health and peace of mind through community ties and welfare support.

The city's population of 65 and over residents has been increasing year by year and is expected to reach 40.6% by the year 2040. As people age, they tend to have weaker ties to society, but interacting with the local community and participating in activities with friends leads to mental and physical health. The city values such connections and is working to improve its welfare services.

Let's work together to create a city where people can live healthy and safe lives.

Please access the website for the "Local Support and Mutual Aid List" that compiles local places for interaction and places to visit →

Lively activities with friends

Participating in local activities leads to better health and a more fulfilling daily life by getting more physical activity and talking more. Also, making familiar faces in the neighborhood allows you to exchange information and feel more secure in knowing that you can help each other in times of emergency.

There are groups in the city that carry out a variety of activities, including sports, exercise, karaoke, mahjong and chatting.

Why not join one that matches your interests?



"Local Resource
Book Supporting
the Elderly" →



Two cities and 1 town SOS Network

In order to find and protect as quickly as possible those who have gone missing due to dementia or other reasons, Sakura City, Yachimata City, Shisui Town, Sakura Police Station and the Fire Department Union comprising Sakura City, Yachimata City and Shisui Town will work together to conduct searches.

Advance registration and subsidies for the use of GPS devices are also available.

Inquiries: Kōreisha Fukushi-ka (Senior Citizens' Welfare Section) ☎ 484-6138

Sakura Keisatsusho (Sakura Police Station) ☎ 484-0110



Adult Guardianship System

This is a system for appointing an "adult guardian" for people who lack sufficient judgement capacity due to dementia, intellectual disabilities, mental disorders, etc., and for protecting their legal rights in contracts, etc.

The city has established the Sakura City Adult Guardianship Support Center to accept consultations regarding the use of the system.

Inquiries: Sakura shi Seinen Kōken Shien Sentā (Sakura City Adult Guardianship Support Center -Inside the Social Welfare Council) ☎ 484-1288



If you have any problems or concerns, please contact the Chiiki Hōkatsu Shien Sentā (Regional Comprehensive Support Center)

To ensure that elderly people can live in peace in the neighborhoods they are familiar with, our specialists, including chief care managers, social workers, public health nurses and nurses, work together to answer any and all inquiries from the elderly and their families. Please feel free to ask us any questions you may have.

Region	Location	Phone Number
Northern Shizu Area	6-12-3 Nishi-Yūkarigaoka AEON Town, Yūkarigaoka East Block 1 st F.	462-9531
Southern Shizu Area	1672-7 Kamishizu, Shizu Civic Plaza 1 st F.	460-7700
Usui/Chiyoda Area	1-23 Ojida, Lake Pia Usui 3 rd F.	488-3731
Sakura Area	3-12-1 Miyamae	488-5151
Southern Region	1587 Oshinozuka, Nanbu Community Welfare Center B Building 1 st F.	483-5520

THE 5TH IMBANUMA CARDBOARD IKADA CUP WILL BE HELD!

Date & Time: August 17 (Sun) 9:00~13:00 Rain or shine. ※Cancelled in case of stormy weather. **Place:** Sakura Furusato Square. **Target:** Elem. School 1st grade and above. 15 groups per class, (first-come, first-served)

Holding class/Fee: ❶ Issunboshi class (single seater) 5,500 Yen. ❷ Tom Sawyer class (2-seater) 8,800 Yen. ❸ Kaizoku-sen class (3 or more people) 11,000 Yen.

❹ Company/Group class Battle Flag (3 or more people) 16,500 Yen. Please apply through the homepage QRC

Inquiries: Inbanuma Cardboard Ikada CUP Executive Committee ☎ 080-1092-8765 ✉ info@inba-ikada-cup.jp





Municipal, Prefectural and Forest Environment Taxes for Fiscal Year 2025

Municipal, Prefectural and Forest Environment taxes are calculated based on income from January to December, 2024 and are levied at the address as of January 1, 2025. In addition, the fixed tax reduction will not be applied to fiscal year 2025 except for some eligible individuals. Therefore, even if the income amount and income deduction amount are not significantly different from fiscal year 2024, the tax amount will be higher in fiscal year 2025.

Payment method and notification date

Payment method	Shipping date
Special collection from salary. Deducted from monthly salary.	May 16 (Fri) ※Sent to your payer (employer)
Normal collection. Direct payment by individuals (payment at the counter, direct debit, etc.)	June 6 (Fri)
Special collection from public pensions. The tax amount calculated from public pension income will be deducted from the pension (applies to public pension recipients aged 65 or older as of April 1, 2025).	June 6 (Fri)

Inquiries: Shiminzei-ka (Municipal Tax Section)
☎484-6115

※If you submitted your tax return after March 17, 2025, the contents may not be reflected in the initial notice. In that case, we will send you a notice of tax amount change at a later date. In addition, the delay in taxation may affect other systems (such as insurance premiums calculated using tax information).

Changes for FY 2025

◆Fixed tax reduction for spouses living in the same household (excluding spouses eligible for exemption). Those who have a total income of more than 10 million yen and up to 18'050,000 million yen or below in 2024 (20 million yen or less in the case of salary income only) and who have a spouse living in the same household (excluding spouses eligible for exemption) can receive a tax reduction of 10,000 yen. For details, please see the website →



PLEASE BE CAREFUL OF CITY TAX REFUND FRAUDS!



There have been a number of "refund frauds" across the country in which scammers pose as city officials, offer tax refunds and lure victims to ATM's to have them transfer cash.

The city will not ask you to use an ATM to receive your refund, nor will we contact you by phone or email regarding your refund.

The actual flow of the city tax refund is as follows:

- ① The city sends a notification that a refund has been issued (named "Notice of Refund of overdue payments, etc.")
- ② Please fill out the form (named "Request form for refund of overdue payments, etc.") enclosed with the letter and send it in the return envelope.
- ③ After confirmation, the transfer will be made in about 2 to 3 weeks.

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

SCHOOL LUNCH SUBSIDY FOR THE 3RD AND SUBSEQUENT CHILDREN

In order to reduce the financial burden of raising children on large families, subsidies will be provided to cover the cost of school lunches for the third and subsequent children during the compulsory education period. **Deadline:** July 16 (Wed). **Target:** Guardians who meet all the following conditions from ① to ④

- ① Supporting three or more children.
- ② The third or later child in ① is receiving school lunch at a municipal elementary or junior high school (including those who bring their own school lunch due to allergies, etc.)
- ③ The household does not receive full subsidies for school lunch through the national, prefectural or city governments.
- ④ There are no tardy or unpaid school lunch fees in the household.

To apply, please bring the application form to the attending school (obtained from the school or downloaded from the website→)

Inquiries: Shidō-ka (School Guidance Section) ☎484-6193



CHANGE IN RECEPTION HOURS ON A TRIAL BASIS AT SOME CITY HALL COUNTERS

Starting August 1 (Fri) the opening hours on weekdays will change as follows:

(Currently: 8:45~17:00) - After change→9:00~16:30

Target sections (counters): Citizen Affairs, Health Insurance, Accounting, Municipal Tax, Property Tax, Credit Management, Branch offices and substations, Health centers: Kenkō Kanri Center, Seibu Hoken Center, Nanbu Hoken Center.

Open on Sundays from October 12 (Sun):
Citizens Affairs Section.

(Currently: 8:45~12:15) - After change→9:00 to noon
Open on Sundays: Health Insurance, Municipal Tax, Property Tax, Credit Management and Shizu Branch office.

Inquiries:

For general information regarding changes to reception hours, please contact:

Gyōsei Kanri-ka (Administrative Management Section) ☎484-6288

For information regarding Sundays opening hours, please contact:

**Shimin-ka (Citizens' Affairs Section) ☎484-6122 and
Shimin Zei-ka (Citizens' Tax Section) ☎484-6114.**

THE FOOD HYGIENE SUMMER COUNTERMEASURE PERIOD IN CHIBA PREFECTURE IS JUNE ~ SEPTEMBER

The hot and humid summer is the time when food poisoning caused by bacteria such as campylobacter and enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli O157 is most likely to occur. Food poisoning can occur not only in restaurants but also in homes, so be careful when handling food to prevent it.

TIPS FOR PREVENTING FOOD POISONING AT HOME:

At the time of purchase:

- ▶ Check the expiration date, etc.
- ▶ Buy fresh and frozen foods last.
- ▶ Wrap meat, fish, etc. in separate plastic bags to prevent juices from getting on other foods.
- ▶ Go back home right away without making any detours.

When saving:

- ▶ Store refrigerated or frozen foods in the refrigerator or freezer immediately after bringing them home.
- ▶ Keep the refrigerator below 10°C and the freezer below -15°C.
- ▶ Don't overfill the fridge or freezer.

When cooking:

- ▶ Wash your hands thoroughly with soap before cooking.
- ▶ Use separate knives and cutting boards for meat, fish and vegetables or rinse and put boiling water over them before using.
- ▶ Cook meat and fish thoroughly. The recommended cooking time is 75°C for at least 1 minute until the center temperature reaches 75°C.
- ▶ Defrost only the amount of frozen foods you will use and do not repeatedly freeze and defrost it.

At meal times:

- ▶ Wash your hands with soap before eating.
- ▶ Don't leave cooked food at room temperature for a long time.

Leftover food:

- ▶ After washing your hands, divide into small portions and store in clean utensils and containers so that they cool down quickly.
- ▶ Throw away anything that is too old.
- ▶ When reheating, heat thoroughly. The recommended heating time is 75°C for at least one minute.

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

GET REGULAR MEDICAL CHECKUPS! WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FY 2025

The city conducts various medical examinations to prevent and detect illnesses early. In addition, you will need a medical examination ticket to receive a medical examination. If you do not have a medical examination ticket, please apply using the following method:

① Prepare a "consultation ticket". To issue a medical examination ticket, you must apply (through the Chiba Electronic service → or contact the Health Promotion Section.



② Book a medical examination.

▶ **Group examinations:** Make a reservation online → or submit a reservation request form by mail, counter, fax, etc. Please see page 7 of the "Test Information Booklet" enclosed with your medical examination voucher.

▶ **Individual examinations:** Apply directly to medical institutions cooperating with individual examinations.



↑ City's Website

CHECKUP SCHEDULE:

- ▶ **Group examinations:** July 1 (Tue) ~ February 18 (Wed), 2026
- ▶ **Individual examinations:** June 2 (Mon) ~ December 10 (Wed)

※Cervical cancer screening and breast cancer screening (mammography) for individual examinations will be available until March 13, 2026 (Fri). ※Dental examinations will be available until February 10, 2026 (Tue).

※Young people can get screened! People aged 19 to 30 can also receive cervical cancer screening, osteoporosis screening and adult dental checkups. For details on the screening content and conditions, please see the city's website.

※For a detailed list on the various medical examinations and prices, please see the city's website.

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



Agricultural Pest Control

From July 22 (Tue) to July 25 (Fri)



Pesticides will be sprayed over paddy fields in Sakura City from 4:00 to 11:00 using drones, etc. in order to prevent pests and rice diseases. Please check the schedule for your area on Kōhō Sakura, Japanese version.

Please contact us if you require a vehicle cover, if you live in an area where spraying of the product into crops is expected or if you are feeling unwell.
Shokubutsu Bōeki Kyōkai, (The Plant Protection Association) JA Chiba Mirai Sakura Yotsukaido
Agricultural Center ☎485-6115.
In charge: Nōsei-ka (Agricultural Administration Section)

- ▶ On the dates of the pesticide spraying, please refrain from entering or driving into the sprayed areas.
- ▶ We use highly safe chemicals. However, households living near the spraying areas should refrain from storing food or drinks outside.
- ▶ Do not enter the rice fields where the product has been sprayed for about 5 days.