



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

Hello Sakura is a free monthly newsletter featuring excerpts from the Japanese language Public Relations newsletter *Kōhō Sakura* (こうほう佐倉) issued by Sakura City. This newsletter is distributed free of charge at public facilities within the city and is also available on the city's website. Additionally, English interpretation services are available for procedures at the counters. Please be sure to make a reservation in advance by phone or email to the Public Relations Section.

DISCOVER AND PROTECT THE SCENERY OF SAKURA !

A landscape is the impression that a town's appearance and scenery give to people, reflecting its natural environment, history, culture and daily life. Sakura City has many landscapes that are uniquely "Sakura-like", nurtured by its rich natural environment, including Imbanuma Lake and its long history and culture. These are important assets that must be protected and passed on to future generations.

To further improve these landscapes, it is essential that citizens, businesses and the government work together and collaborate, each in their own way. This time, we will introduce "The Sakura Landscape I Discovered", an initiative in which citizens discover, protect and nurture the unique landscapes of Sakura.

Inquiries: Toshi Keikaku-ka (City Planning Section) ☎ 484-6163

The Sakura Landscape Project I Discovered

We are soliciting landscape photographs from citizens in order to pass on the unique scenery of Sakura to future generations. In 2025, to help people become more familiar with the landscapes of Sakura, we conducted a landscape photograph voting and received 101 submissions from 43 people. We are now pleased to announce the voting results.

❖Sakura City Landscape Council Award

This is a vote conducted by members of the Sakura City Landscape Council, based on their professional perspectives. The evaluation criteria differ from those of the general public, ensuring fairness. The selected works express "Sakura-ness", reflecting the unique characteristics of Sakura.



Artwork Title: "Hishi no Mai" ("Dance of the Water Chestnuts") - Distant view of Imbanuma Lake.

Photographer: Tetsuji Kobayashi

Shooting location: Sunset Hills, lower pier

Photographer's comment: Water chestnuts grow thickly across the lake's surface and time flows quietly on Imbanuma Lake as dusk falls.

❖Sakura City Landscape Award chosen by children

To help children discover the charm of their town and foster their interest in its scenery, we have established the "Children's Choice Sakura Landscape Award". The children tended to choose colorful photos of sunsets and flower fields as well as "special scenery that isn't often seen", such as Mount Fuji and rainbows. Through the landscapes chosen with the unique sensibilities of children we will discover new charms of Sakura. (With the cooperation of seven after-school childcare centers in the city, a total of 186 children participated in the voting.)



Artwork Title:
"Haruka Tōku ni Fuji wo Nozomu"
("Mount Fuji in the distance").

Photographer:

Mitsuru Suzuki

Shooting location:
Imbanuma Sunset Hills

Photographer's comment: Many people think that Mount Fuji is not visible from Sakura. However, Sunset Hills along with Sakura Castle Ruins Park, offer beautiful sunsets over Mount Fuji.

❖Sakura Scenic Views Award chosen by everyone.

We want citizens to experience and appreciate the scenery more. With that in mind, we established the "Sakura Scenic Views Award chosen by everyone". By sharing the scenery selected from the perspective of the citizens, we hope to deepen their attachment to the region and promote its charm! Thank you for your cooperation in voting.

For more details, including comments from the photographers, please visit the city's website →



※The voting period ended December 19, 2025 with a total of 301 votes:

•City Hall lobby, sticker voting: 210 votes. •Web voting: 91 votes.

PRESERVING HISTORY, NATURE AND CULTURE, TOWARDS THE REALIZATION OF A “SUSTAINABLE CITY OF SAKURA”



The environment surrounding local governments is changing dramatically and rapidly year after year, due to factors such as a declining birthrate and aging population, population decrease, climate change and rising prices. Even in these circumstances, we will introduce the main projects that Sakura City is working on, aiming to create a “sustainable city of Sakura”, where citizens can continue to live with peace of mind, while inheriting the “history, nature and culture” that the city has nurtured so far.

Inquiries: Kikaku Seisaku-ka (Policy Planning Section) ☎ 484-6017

Municipal Administration Policy for FY 2026

We will move forward as “All Sakura” towards realizing a “sustainable town of Sakura” that offers dreams and hope.



In FY 2025, athletes born and raised in Sakura City excelled in world competitions such as the Deaflympics, embodying the city’s brand message “Talent blooms in Sakura” and inspiring us with their achievements.

Furthermore, on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the end of the war, we held a peace conference with the mayor of Nagasaki, strengthening our resolve to send a message from Sakura toward the realization of an enduring and lasting peace.

In FY 2026, we will continue to work together as “All Sakura” to ensure that Sakura City’s history, nature and culture are responsibly passed on to future generations, and that the city’s residents can continue to live with dreams and hope in a sustainable city and living environment.

Promotion of initiatives based on the priority measures of the 5th Comprehensive Plan, Mid-Term Basic Plan (FY 2024~FY 2027).

Priority Measure I Regional revitalization initiatives - Four key strategies.

- 1 To revitalize the local economy and provide opportunities to find attractive jobs.
- 2 To promote the charm of Sakura, create a flow of people, and encourage them to settle down in the area.
- 3 To fulfill citizens’ wishes regarding marriage, childbirth and child-rearing.
- 4 Creating a town where people can continue to live with peace of mind and smiles on their faces.



Priority Measure II Three pillars for addressing climate change.

- 1 Fostering civic awareness.
- 2 Promoting adaptation measures.
- 3 Promotion of mitigation measures.

THE TATEZAKI FAMILY RESIDENCE IN KINOKO HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED TO BE DESIGNATED AS A REGISTERED TANGIBLE CULTURAL PROPERTY !

On March 26, the National Council for Cultural Affairs recommended to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, that the late Meiji period building, the Tatezaki Family Residence in Kinoko, Sakura City, be designated as a nationally registered tangible cultural property.



The main house of a farmhouse located in the Kinoko district in southern Sakura City, stands east-facing and in the center of the site there is a single-story wooden building with a hipped roof covered in tile. The north side has an earthen floor, the south side has rooms arranged in two rows and a veranda and extension roof surround the south and east sides. The central 12-tatami room is furnished with a Buddhist altar and a Shinto shrine, while the southwest side features a “tokonoma” (alcove), “tokowaki” (side alcove) and attached “shoin” (study).

This is a typical upper-class farmhouse in the Sakura region from the mid-Meiji period onward, and is an important building that serves as a model for architectural design. (It is not open to the public). If registered after this recommendation, the number of nationally registered tangible cultural properties in Sakura City will be 10.

Inquiries: Bunka-ka (Cultural Promotion Section) ☎ 484-6192

May Festival at Kusabue-no-Oka!

May 3 (Sun, Nat. Holiday) to May 5 (Tue, Nat. Holiday)

This year as well lots of fun events await! Come and enjoy the graceful swimming "koinobori", the large carp streamers. You will also find popular inflatable play equipment, magic shows and exciting outdoor experiences. There is also a mini steam train and opportunities to interact with animals. Make wonderful memories at Sakura Kusabue-no-Oka during Golden Week!

May 3 ~ 5 (Full schedule, daily events)

- ◆Fuwafuwa air playground (200 Yen). 10:00~16:00
- ◆Fluffy soap bubble experience (From 500 Yen~) 10:00~15:00
- ◆Let's have fun with the Lumberjack Club! (From 200 Yen~) 10:00~15:00
- ◆Exciting games challenge! Nature exploration (From 100 Yen~) 10:00~15:00
- ◆Woodworking toy making (From 500 Yen~) 10:00~15:00
- ◆Armor display. 9:00~18:00



May events

- ◆Parent-child flower arrangement class using lilies grown in Sakura City. May 16 (Sat). Reservation required. **Class content and time:** ① Enjoy making flower bouquets. From 10:00~ ② Enjoy flower arrangement. From 13:30~ **Fee:** 3,000 Yen per group. **Capacity:** 10 parent-child pairs (elementary school age and older, first-come, first-served). **Deadline:** May 6 (Wed) until 17:00

Rose Festival

May 9 (Sat) ~ June 7 (Sun), from 8:00 ~

Kusabue-no-Oka Rose Garden celebrates its 20th anniversary!

The garden, filled with rare wild rose species and old roses in full bloom, is truly breathtakingly beautiful. Please enjoy a special moment surrounded by the rich fragrance of roses at the "Rose Festival"!

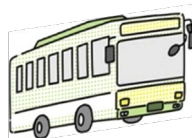
◆Garden Concerts at the Old Rose Garden (Free admission, but separate entrance fee applies):

- ◆Piano concert by Aki Suitō, May 9 (Sat) & 24 (Sun). ① 11:30~ and ② 13:30~.
- ◆Yūnami Live Concert, May 17 (Sun) from 13:30~.
- ◆Concert by the accordion ensemble "Fūsha", May 10 (Sun), 20 (Wed), 23 (Sat) & 27 (Wed). ① 11:00~, ② 13:30~

◆20th Anniversary Ceremony & Garden Party

Date & time: May 16 (Sat), 14:00~

Place: At the Old Rose Garden. (If it is rainy at the gymnasium). Free admission (separate entrance fee applies).



◆Free bus service:

A free shuttle bus will operate between Keisei Sakura Station North Exit and Kusabue-no-Oka during the following period.

May 16 (Sat) ~ June 7 (Sun)

Please visit Kusabue-no-Oka homepage for operating hours →



◆Rose Cafe

Limited-time menu items available during the period.

Naho Kamimura's latest film "Zakken!" currently at theaters!

Naho Kamimura, the screenwriter and film director who serves as a PR ambassador for Sakura City, has released her latest film "Zakken!" which is now showing at various theaters, including Yukarigaoka Cinema Sunshine.

Synopsis: First-year High School student Yukari Sugino (Runa Nakajima) was just an ordinary girl going through the motions of everyday life. Then, she met Mimi Tokuda (Miyu Oshima), nicknamed "Dokudami-chan", a classmate who loved every single weed and was fascinated by their vitality. Dokudami-chan is a little eccentric, but has an incredibly straightforward and pure heart. Her wish is to revive the "Weed Research Club - Zakken". While initially bewildered by Dokudami-chan's passion, Yukari eventually joins her in working towards the revival of Zakken.



○ We received a comment from Naho Kamimura!

"Zakken!" is a manga-series based on a real-life club activity called the Weed Research Club, which has now been adapted into a film. When creating, I've come to appreciate even more the joy of sowing and nurturing seeds of curiosity about the world around me, things I had previously overlooked, as I gaze upon the scenery unfolding before my eyes.

We present the film "Zakken!" with the hope that the daily lives and individual joys of people around the world will be protected. Please see it in theaters.

We went on a tour of photogenic filming locations with Ms. Kamimura, who is filming in various places around the city. Check out the Sakura City Public Relations program, Weekly Sakura, to see what it was like →



Inquiries: Kōhō-ka (Public Relations Section)
☎ 484-6206

PARK INFORMATION: 9:00 ~ 18:00 (16:30 is last admission)

★ Free for kindergarten age children and younger. ★ 100 Yen for elementary and Jr. high school children. ★ 410 Yen for adults and youths of high school age.

Sakura Kusabue-no-Oka
☎ 485-7821

Only on May 3 (Sat, holiday)

- ◆Firefighters band performance 10:30 ~ 11:15

Only on May 4 (Sun, holiday)

- ◆ Magic show by Trick Master "Sora" ① 11:00 ~, ② 13:00 ~, ③ 15:00 ~.

Only on May 5 (Mon, holiday)

- ◆Fire ladder truck experience and fire extinguisher experience 10:00~12:00

**HOLDING SPECIAL OPENINGS & ARMOR TRY-ON EVENT AT:
KYŪ HOTTA TEI (Former Residence of Feudal Lord Hotta)
BUKE-YA SHIKI (Samurai Houses) &
SAKURA JUNTENDŌ KINENKAN (Sakura Juntendō Memorial Building)**

You will be able to contemplate materials and tour rooms that are normally closed to the public. ***The special release date is May 5 (Tuesday, National Holiday).***
The museum will also open until May 6 (Wed, holiday)

◆ At the Samurai houses (Buke-ya Shiki), the armor fitting event will be held from 10:00 to 12:00 and from 13:00 to 15:00. **Fees:** 200 Yen for adults and 100 Yen for students (admission fee not included).
※The last admittance is 30 minutes before closing time.

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



KYŪ HOTTA TEI

9:30 ~ 16:30
Fees: 350 Yen for adults,
170 Yen for students.



BUKE-YA SHIKI

9:00 ~ 17:00
Fees: 250 Yen for adults,
120 Yen for students.



**SAKURA JUNTENDŌ
KINENKAN**

9:00 ~ 17:00
Fees: 100 Yen for adults,
50 Yen for students.

**Pay your taxes conveniently and securely
via bank transfer**

By setting up automatic bank transfer for tax payments, you can avoid the hassle of going to the tax office to pay each time a payment is due. Furthermore, since payments are automatically deducted, you can rest assured that you won't forget to pay. Please fill out and sign the automatic bank transfer request form and submit it at least two months before each payment deadline. Account transfer request forms can be obtained from the City Hall's Debt Management Section, branch offices or financial institutions within the city. Alternatively, you can request one by mail through the Chiba Electronic Application Service ➔



◆ We have added some online banks to the list of financial institutions that accept automatic bank transfers for city taxes. From now on, you can also pay city taxes by automatic bank transfer with accounts at:

AEON Bank and Rakuten Bank

❖ Request forms can be submitted in person to the debt Management Section or by mail.

❖ For further details, please visit the city's website ➔

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



**Temporary counters for dog
registration**



After receiving the rabies vaccination, you will need to obtain a vaccination certificate. You can complete the procedure at the City Hall's Living Environment Section or at a temporary counter.

Days & Places:

◆ May 20 (Wed), June 26 (Fri) at Nishi-Shizu Fureai Center.

◆ May 20 (Wed) at Shizu Shimin Plaza

◆ May 21 (Thur) Sakura Minami Library

◆ May 21 (Thur), June 26 (Fri) at Sakura Harmony Hall.

❖ If already registered, please provide the rabies vaccination certificate (issued by a veterinarian and any information from the city. Handling fee: 550 Yen. If unregistered, rabies vaccination certificate issued by a veterinarian, Fee 3,550.

Further details on the website ➔

Inquiries: Seikatsu Kankyō-ka (Living Environment Section)

☎ 484-6148



BICYCLE HELMETS – PARTIAL SUBSIDY

Target people: ❶ Those who purchased an eligible helmet between April 1, 2026 and March 31, 2027. ❷ Those who have been continuously registered as residents of the city from the date of helmet purchase to the date of application. ❸ The helmet user or their guardian. ※Those with overdue or unpaid municipal taxes are not eligible.

◆ **Eligible helmets are:** SG mark, JCF mark, CE mark (only EN1078), GS mark, CPSC mark (CPSC 1203 only).

◆ **Subsidy amount:** Half of the helmet purchase cost (up to 2,000 Yen, rounded down to the nearest 10 Yen). One helmet per user and subsidy only once (no age restrictions).



※ **There are conditions to obtain the grant, purchasing method, etc.** For more details, please check the city's website ➔

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



**FY 2026
LIGHT VEHICLE TAX**



A light vehicle tax is levied for any light vehicle (including mopeds, small bikes, small-sized special vehicles, and three- and four-wheeled light vehicles) as of April 1 each year. Tax payment notices are scheduled to be mailed on May 11 (Mon).

The deadline for light vehicle tax payment is: June 1 (Monday).

◆ For other type of vehicles and tax rate categories, please check the website ➔



Inquiries: Shiminzei-ka (Municipal Tax Section) ☎ 484-6114