



Vol. 262
March
2013

Konnichiwa!

NAGAOKA

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URL: <http://www.city.nagaoka.niigata.jp/> (長岡市ウェブサイト) →
English (Nagaoka International Affairs Center) →
地球広場 (International Affairs Center) → Konnichiwa Nagaoka



Help Yourself to Fresh Strawberries!

Picking strawberries at Nagaoka Higashiyama *Furusato Taiken Nôen* (a farm featuring hands-on experiences of life in the old days) is popular among many visitors including families. Despite the cold and snowy weather outside, it's nice and warm inside the greenhouses that are filled with sweet fragrance of strawberries, a taste of spring. You can enjoy picking strawberries until the middle of June.

Nagaoka Higashiyama *Furusato Taiken Nôen*:
Hachibuse-machi (0258-37-0178)

What's New at City Hall Plaza – Aôre Nagaoka?

Commemorative Events for the First Anniversary of City Hall Plaza – Aôre Nagaoka

- NST “Smile Stadium” Live Broadcast
- “Ikemen (Good-Looking Guy)” Contest
- Food Stalls • Relay Concert • Sports Activities

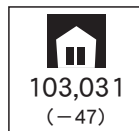
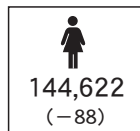
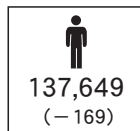
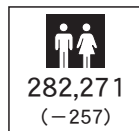
Professional Basketball Matches Niigata Albirex BB b j Official League Matches

March 23 (Sat.) 6:00 p.m. March 24 (Sun.) 2:00 p.m.
Tickets: ¥8,000 - ¥3,000
L Code: 35229 P Code: 593-004
Seven Code: 018-021

Major Features:

- Incinerating Debris Resulting from the Great East Japan Earthquake--p. 2
- Producing Biogas-----p. 2
- Nuclear Disaster Countermeasures-----p. 3
- The Mutual Aid Traffic Casualty Insurance Plan-----p. 3
- The School Attendance Support System-----p. 3
- A Guide to Japanese Proficiency Test-----p. 4
- Seasonal Events-----p. 7
- Free Legal Consultations for Foreign Nationals-----p. 8

Population and Households
As of February 1, 2013
(compared to the previous month)



Incinerating Debris Resulting from the Great East Japan Earthquake

The incineration of debris woodchips from Ôtsuchi-chô, Iwate Prefecture started at the Tochio Clean Center on February 18th. The total amount of debris woodchips to be incinerated is 19.5 tons. Blending 1.5 tons of debris with 27 tons of regular trash at a time, the city will complete the incineration by the end of March. The measured air radiation levels are the same before and after the incineration on February 18th, which was lower than the standard level of 0.16 microsievert per hour regulated by the city, as shown in the table below.

Air Radiation Levels (Average)	Microsievert per Hour
Before the Incineration Over the Debris Woodchips (Feb. 18) Around the Clean Center (Feb. 14)	0.06
After the Incineration Around the Clean Center (Feb. 18)	0.06

The budget for the incineration was proposed at the extraordinary session of the City Council and passed with many eyes.

A total of 104 municipalities throughout Japan are making progress in accepting debris from the areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. In

appreciation of the great support provided by many people across Japan during the time of our hardships caused by the 2004 Great Chûetsu Earthquake, the City of Nagaoka decided to accept debris woodchips to our city as well. At the City Council session, Mayor Mori stressed, “Future generations of our city will be proud of our decision to accept debris woodchips from Ôtsuchi-chô. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the kind understanding of the people of the Tochio District who gave us an opportunity to fulfill our role and responsibility for the catastrophe-affected people.”



Residents watching the preparation for the incineration (Tochio Clean Center, February 18)

Food Scraps Can Be an Energy Source An Experimental Operation for Producing Biogas Will Begin in April 2013

The construction of a facility to produce biogas from food scraps is underway at the Environmental Sanitary Center (3-chôme Kotobuki). A project to produce biogas from food scraps, which are currently incinerated, is scheduled to start in July 2013. An experimental operation for producing biogas will begin in April 2013 along with a new system for separating food scraps from other burnable trash (see page 6).

This project uses microorganisms that convert food scraps into biogas through fermentation and resolution.



The facility to produce biogas from food scraps is under construction. (late January)

Waste by-products are to be sold and used as fuel at private biomass power stations. The city will deal with 65 tons of food scraps per day, which is estimated to be the largest amount among the local municipalities in Japan. Being a prototype project for creating future energy sources, the facility has drawn many visitors from home and abroad, including Asian countries.

“Three Birds with One Stone”

The Results of Nagaoka’s Eco-Friendly Project

- **Cost Reduction for Trash Handling**
Approximately ¥3.5 billion in 15 years
- **Reduction of CO₂ Gas Emissions**
2,000 tons per year
(equivalent to the emissions from approximately 420 households)
- **Power Generation**
4.1 million kilowatts of electricity per year
(equivalent to the electricity used by approximately 1,000 households)

Nuclear Disaster Countermeasures

On February 21st, the Nagaoka City Disaster Prevention Conference was held with 46 representatives from administrative and infrastructural organizations. Members from the Niigata Meteorological Observatory and the Pharmacist Association also joined the conference. The basic plan that was formulated for nuclear disaster countermeasures specifies necessary procedures as follows:

- Recommending that residents in areas within 5 – 30 kilometers of a nuclear disaster stay indoors in order to avoid panic

- Collecting and disseminating accurate information in collaboration with administrative sectors, nuclear-related organizations, meteorological observatories via any possible medium
- Publishing countermeasure leaflets to be distributed to every household
- Conducting evacuation drills



The Niigata Prefecture Mutual Aid Traffic Casualty Insurance Plan

交通災害共済・こうつう さいがい きょうさい

This plan is a mutual insurance system managed by all the municipalities in Niigata Prefecture. The membership fee is ¥500 a year. A compensation payment is provided when a member is injured in a traffic accident.

The amount of the payment varies ranging from ¥30,000 to ¥1.5 million depending on the number of days that are required for treatment.

The compensation payment can be claimed even when you are injured in a bicycle accident and outpatient treatment is required for seven days or more.

The application form is available at *Aôre*

Nagaoka, the city's branch offices, or most banks. You can also get an English version of the information leaflet at the Nagaoka City International Affairs Center, *Chikyû Hiroba* in the Nagaoka Civic Center.

Application Period:

February 1 – March 31, 2013

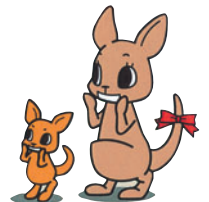
(Entry after April 1st is also possible.)

For further information:

Shimin Katsudô Suishin Ka

(Citizens' Affairs Promotion Division
Nagaoka City Office

Phone: 0258-39-2206



The School Attendance Support System for Compulsory Education

The City of Nagaoka is providing subsidies for elementary and junior high school students from households whose total income is lower than the standardized amount in 2012. The subsidies are offered for school supplies, things used for commuting to school, materials for physical education, school trips, lunch, and other necessary things.

Application forms will be distributed at school. Fill out the form with the necessary information. Submit the application form to:
School Affairs Division (0258-39-2239)

Nagaoka City Board of Education
2nd Floor, Saiwai-chô Branch Office

Application Period:

April 1 (Mon.) – April 30 (Tues.)

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

For detailed information about this system, please contact:

* Your child's homeroom teacher

* School Affairs Division of the Nagaoka City Board of Education.

Phone: 0258-39-2239

* Nagaoka City International Affairs Center,
Chikyû Hiroba

Phone: 0258-39-2714 (see page 4)



The Nagaoka Civic Center

2-2-6 Ôte Street, Nagaoka City (0258-39-2763)

Hours: Every Day Except for the Year-End and the New Year's Holidays

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays, and National Holidays 9:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.



Nagaoka City International Affairs Center (*Chikyû Hiroba*) (1st Floor)

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Saturdays, Sundays, and National Holidays 9:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Phone: 0258-39-2714 Fax: 0258-39-2715

E-mail: kouryu-c@city.nagaoka.lg.jp



Consultations Offered for International Residents

Various services are provided for international residents. The center is a place where international residents can find help and support. The staff members are ready to respond to you either in English or easy Japanese. No appointment is necessary for consultations. Feel free to stop by if you have any difficulties, worries, or questions.



Japanese Learning Programs

Nihongo Kôza

The 1st term of classes for the 2013 fiscal year will be offered from April 2013 to September 2013.

A trial lesson is offered. Please call ahead.

Morning Classes

* Class I

(Lesson 1 – Lesson 12 of *Minna no Nihongo*)

Tuesdays & Fridays 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

(60 minutes)

* Class II

(Lesson 13 – Lesson 25 of *Minna no Nihongo*)

Tuesdays & Fridays 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

(60 minutes)

April	5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26, 30	¥1,600
May	7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24, 28, 31	¥1,600
June	4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28	¥1,600
July	2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26, 30	¥1,800
Aug.	6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, 30	¥1,600
Sept.	3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24	¥1,400

Sunday Classes

* Class I

* Class I 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (120 minutes)

(Lesson 1 – Lesson 13 of *Minna no Nihongo*)

* Class II

* Class II 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (120 minutes)

(Lesson 14 – Lesson 25 of *Minna no Nihongo*)

April	7, 14, 21, 28	¥1,600
May	12, 19, 26	¥1,200
June	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	¥2,000
July	7, 14, 21, 28	¥1,600
Aug.	4, 11, 18, 25	¥1,600
Sept.	1, 8, 15, 22	¥1,600

Nihongo Hiroba

Volunteers help international residents learn Japanese at this free program during the following sessions:

- Sundays 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Fridays 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



A Guide to Japanese Proficiency Test

* Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)

Test Dates in 2013:

July 7 (Sun.) for all levels from N1 to N5

December 1 (Sun.) for all levels from N1 to N5

Test Sites: Major Cities in Japan

Application Period for the July 1 Test:

April 1 (Mon.) – May 1 (Wed.)

Test Fee: ¥5,500

Application Guide with an application form: ¥500

Application Guide is available from the middle of

March at major bookstores in Japan, Toda Shoten

Bookstore Nagaoka Branch (33-1 Sakai-machi Urata,

0258-22-5911), Kumazawa Shoten (2nd Floor, River-

side Senshû, 0258-20-5760), or online at the Bonjin-

sha Bookstore (www.bonjinsha.com)

Application via Internet:

From March 1 (Fri.), 2013

Application Guide is not necessary.

Application by Mail:

Application Guide is necessary.

JPLT Application Center

03-6686-2974

<http://info.jees-jlpt.jp>



Kosodate no Eki, Gun Gun

Nagaoka Civic Disaster Prevention Center, 1st Floor
1-3-85 Senzai Phone: 0258-30-1025
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Every Day Except for Tuesdays
(Open on Tuesday if it is a national holiday)

- * **Fureai Time** 10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Every Day
- * **Picture Storybook Reading Time**
3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Every Day
- * **“Spot Time”** 10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Every Monday
- * **Happy Hina Doll Festival**
10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. March 1 (Fri.)
- * **Healthy Tea Time** 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. March 7 (Thurs.)
- * **Workshop: Children and Their Diet**
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. March 10 (Sun.)
- * **Craftwork Cafe** 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
March 14 (Thurs.) and 28 (Thurs.)
- * **Happy Birthday Party**
10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. March 15 (Fri.)
- * **Enjoy Playing in English**
10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. March 18 (Mon.)
- * **Child-Rearing Salon**
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. March 21 (Thurs.)
- * **Mini Lecture: Emergency First-Aid**
10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. March 22 (Fri.)
- * **Enjoy Making Things**
10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. March 25 (Mon.)
- * **Spring Fire Prevention Campaign**
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. March 31 (Sun.)



Free Child-Rearing Counseling 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
March 6 (Wed.) Nutritionist
March 13 (Wed.) Child-Rearing Advisor



Kids' Plaza (Chibikko Hiroba)

Phoenix Ôte West 2nd Floor and 3rd Floor
2-5 Ôte Street Phone: 0258-39-2775
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Every Day

- * **Story Telling Time** 11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Every Day
- * **Kamishibai (Giant Picture Card Story)** March 18 (Mon.)
- * **Smiley Kids' Day** 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
March 2 (Sat.) and 22 (Fri.)
- * **Wai Wai Chatting** 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
March 4 (Mon.), 19 (Tues.), and April 2 (Tues.)
- * **Baby Clover Club Get-Together**
Baby Weighing-Measuring and Child-Rearing Talks & Consultations 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. March 4 (Mon.)
- * **Time for Chibikko Kids and Birthday Party**
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
March 6 (Wed.), 20 (Wed.), 27 (Wed.), and April 10 (Wed.)
Birthday Party: March 27 (Wed.)
- * **Smiley Kids' Day, Special: Making Picture Storybooks**
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m. March 8 (Fri.)
- * **Mini-Lecture: Toilet Training**
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. March 13 (Wed.)
- * **Let's Pretend! Going Out and Around Town**
9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. March 14 (Thurs.) – 16 (Sat.)
- * **Picture Storybooks for Expecting Mothers**
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. March 15 (Fri.)
- * **Let's Play with Blocks**
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. March 16 (Sat.)



Free Child-Rearing Counseling 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
March 5 (Tues.) Child-Rearing Advisor
March 21 (Thurs.) Nursery School Teacher
Temporary Day-Care for Preschool-Aged Children:
¥300/hour



Kosodate no Eki, Senshû (Teku Teku)

1-99-6 Senshû Phone: 0258-21-3860
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Every Day Except for Wednesdays
(Open on Wednesday if it is a national holiday)

- * **Picture Storybook Reading Time**
1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Every Monday
- * **Teku Teku Mini-Concert**
1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Every Friday
- * **Hina Doll Festival** 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. March 1 (Fri.)
- * **Kome Hyappyô Bookmobile**
2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. March 1 (Fri.)
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. April 23 (Tues.)
- * **Playing Games from the Old Days** 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
March 4 (Mon.) and April 2 (Tues.)
- * **“Toy Hospital” for Fixing Broken Toys**
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. March 8 (Fri.)
- * **Birthday Party**
10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. March 8 (Fri.) and April 9 (Tues.)
- * **Lecture for Mothers: Stress Relief for Child Rearing**
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. March 12 (Tues.)
- * **Wai Wai Chatting** 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
March 14 (Thurs.) and 28 (Thurs.)
- * **Nakayoshi Time** 10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
March 15 (Fri.), 22 (Fri.), 29 (Fri.), and April 5 (Fri.)
- * **Day for One-Year Old Kids**
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. March 21 (Thurs.)



Free Child-Rearing Counseling 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
March 4 (Mon.) Childcare Committee Chief
March 14 (Thurs.) Experienced Mothers
March 19 (Tues.) Child-Rearing Advisor
Temporary Day-Care for Preschool-Aged Children:
¥300/hour

Child-Rearing Support Facilities



Kosodate no Eki, Tochio (Suku Suku)

Tochio Sangyô Kôryû Center, 2nd Floor
1765 Miyazawa, Tochio Phone: 0258-51-1022
Hours: 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays
(Closed on national holidays)

- * **Wanpaku Plaza** 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
March 6 (Wed.) and 27 (Wed.)
- * **Nakayoshi Plaza** 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
March 8 (Fri.) and 22 (Fri.)
- * **Fuwa Fuwa Plaza** 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
March 13 (Wed.)
- * **Suku Suku Tea Time** 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
March 27 (Wed.)
- * **Baby Massage** 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
March 8 (Fri.)

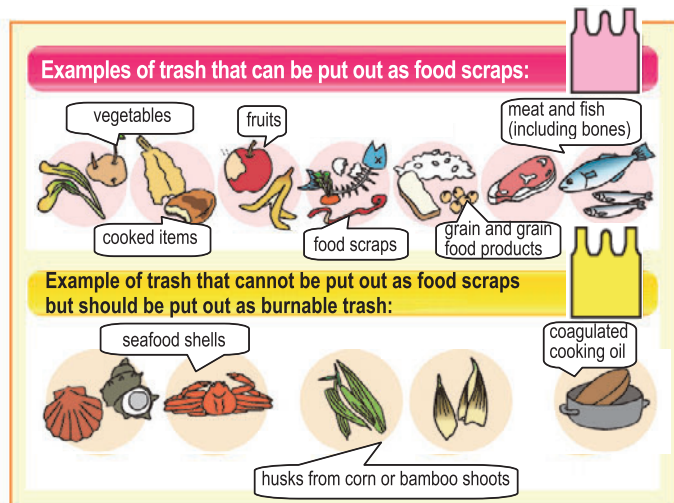


Free Child-Rearing Counseling
March 6 (Wed.) 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Maternity Nurse
March 15 (Fri.) 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Public Health Nurse



A Guide to a New System for Separating *Namagomi* (Food Scraps) Starting from April 2013

Food scraps are currently being put out in prepaid yellow bags as burnable trash. However, starting from April 2013, food scraps should be separated from other burnable trash and put out in prepaid pink bags.



Quiz: Can you put out the following trash as food scraps?

Q1	edible parts of vegetables from your gardens	Yes
Q2	cut flowers	No
Q3	fruit seeds	Yes
Q4	egg shells and bones of fish or meat	Yes
Q5	coagulated cooking oil	No
Q6	paper that was used to absorb cooking oil	Yes
Q7	tea packs and coffee filters	Yes
Q8	food scraps in net strainers, disposable paper strainers, or plastic bags	Yes
Q9	food scraps wrapped in newspaper	No
Q10	pet litter-box sand	No

How to Put Out Food Scraps

How Often: Twice a week
When:

*In neighborhoods where burnable trash collection days are on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays:

Food scraps in prepaid pink bags will be collected on Mondays and Fridays. On Wednesdays, food scraps can be put out in prepaid yellow bags with burnable trash.

Currently	From April 2013	
Mondays	Burnable Trash	 Circle the picture of the diaper printed on the yellow bags.
Wednesdays	 burnable trash including food scraps, diapers, sanitary napkins, and urine pads in yellow bags	
Fridays	 food scraps in pink bags, diapers, sanitary napkins, and urine pads in yellow bags	

* In neighborhoods where burnable trash collection days are on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays:

Food scraps in prepaid pink bags will be collected on Tuesdays and Saturdays. On Thursdays, food scraps can be put out in prepaid yellow bags with burnable trash.

Currently	From April 2013	
Tuesdays	Burnable Trash	 Circle the picture of the diaper printed on the yellow bags.
Thursdays	 burnable trash including food scraps, diapers, sanitary napkins, and urine pads in yellow bags	
Saturdays	 food scraps in pink bags, diapers, sanitary napkins, and urine pads in yellow bags	

Food scraps should be put out in prepaid pink bags. You can save on trash disposing costs by putting out food scraps in prepaid pink bags, which are cheaper than the prepaid yellow bags for burnable trash.

Small bags (approximately 10 liters) ¥100 for 10 bags
Extra Small bags (approximately 5 liters) ¥ 50 for 10 bags



Prepaid pink bags for food scraps are available at convenience stores and supermarkets that have this sign.



Trash Collection

Details about how to sort and dispose of trash and recyclable materials are given in an information booklet in Chinese, English, and Portuguese.

Copies of “A Calendar of Collection Days for Household Trash and Recyclable Materials” (2013 version) are also available in Chinese, English, and Portuguese. Each neighborhood has its own collection sites, times, and days.

The booklet and the calendar showing up-dated information about collection days from April 2013 to March 2014 are available at the Nagaoka City International Affairs Center, *Chikyû Hiroba* on Ôte Street.

Your trash should be separated properly and put out in the appropriate bags at your assigned collection site, by 8:30 a.m. on the designated days in your neighborhood. Otherwise, your trash will not be collected and

will be left out at the “*gomi station*,” the trash collection sites. If you put out some materials that cannot be collected by the city, they will also be left out at the collection sites.

Please be sure to check the collection sites and days for your neighborhood by referring to the city’s trash disposal rules described in the information booklet. Your cooperation in reducing and recycling trash is most appreciated.

For Further Information:
Kankyô Gyômu Ka
 Phone: 0258-24-2837
 (Environmental Management Division)

SUN. 日曜日 DOM.	MON. 月曜日 MON.	TUE. 火曜日 TUE.	WED. 水曜日 WED.	THUR. 木曜日 THUR.	FRI. 金曜日 FRI.	SAT. 土曜日 SAT.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

A Calendar of Collection Days

Seasonal Events

Shoku no Jin (Regional Specialty Festival)

Sado *Shoku no Jin*

March 16 (Sat.) – 18 (Mon.) 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Venue: Ibuki 21 (691 Mano, Sado City)

- A variety of seafood soup
- Making soba noodles
- Taiko drumming - Stalls

For further information:

Sado Tourism Association (0259-24-1955)



Teradomari *Shoku no Jin*

Sunday, March 24 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Venue: Parking Lot in front of Teradomari Central Beach

Teradomari *Taiikukan* (Gym) in case of rain

- Cuisine booths full of regional specialties
- Sales of Local Products

A bowl of fish soup will be served free of charge for the first 500 visitors.

For further information:

Teradomari Tourism Association (0258-75-3363)



The Spring Fire Prevention Campaign

Monday, April 1 – Sunday, April 7

Careless handling of bonfires or cigarette butts causes many fires every year. Please be extremely careful when dealing with any kind of fire.

Programs for the Fire Prevention Campaign:

Sunday, March 31 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Gun Gun, a child-rearing support facility

The Nagaoka Firefighters’ Band will play music and firefighting vehicles will be on display.

For further information:

Fire Department Headquarters
 (0258-35-2190)



The 29th Annual Mishima Mountain Range Marathon Race

Sunday, May 19, 2013

Courses:

There will be 16 different events for various age and gender groups, including 2-km, 3-km, 5-km, 11-km, and half-marathon (21.0975km) courses.

Registration: By March 22 (Fri.)

Fee: ¥3,000 for adults

Flyers with application forms are available at the city’s various offices including the Nagaoka Civic Center on Ôte Street or sports facilities.

For further information:

Mishima District Office (0258-42-2221)



A Notice for Light Automobile Tax

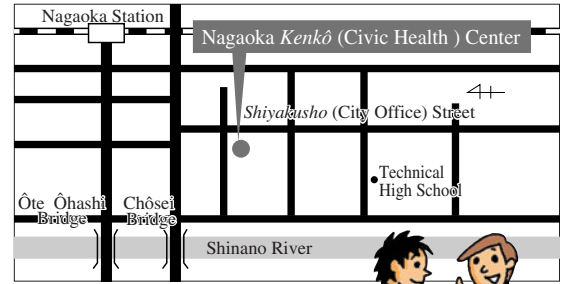
Owners (as of April 1st) of motorbikes (mopeds, scooters, and motorcycles), farming vehicles, and light automobiles (as of April 1st) must pay a light automobile tax. If you receive a notice for light automobile tax, please pay the tax by the designated date. If you have transferred ownership or discarded the vehicle, please notify the Citizens’ Tax Division (0258-39-2212) by Friday, March 31st, 2013.



Major Emergency Medical Facilities

Major General Hospitals

Nagaoka *Chûô Sôgô Byôin* (Central General Hospital) 0258-35-3700
 Nagaoka *Sekijûji Byôin* (Red Cross Hospital) 0258-28-3600
 Tachikawa *Sôgô Byôin* (General Hospital) 0258-33-3111
 Nagaoka *Kenkô* (Civic Health) Center 0258-32-5000
 2-5-1 Nishi Senju



Nagaoka Kenkô (Civic Health) Center



Facilities	Departments	Hours
Clinic for Sundays, Holidays, and Nights (0258-37-1199) For obstetrics and gynecology (<i>san fujin ka</i>), the staff at this facility will give information about which clinic is assigned for each Sunday or holiday.	Internal Medicine (<i>Naika</i>)	(Monday – Friday) 6:45 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. (Sundays and Holidays) 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
	Pediatrics (<i>Shônika</i>)	(Sundays and Holidays) 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
	Surgery (<i>Geka</i>)	(Sundays and Holidays) 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Dental Clinic for Sundays and Holidays (0258-33-9644)	Dentistry (<i>Shika</i>)	(Sundays and Holidays) 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Chûetsu Center for Children's Emergency Treatment (0258-86-5099)	Pediatrics (<i>Shônika</i>)	(Monday – Saturday) 6:45 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Free Legal Consultations for Foreign Nationals

The Niigata Prefecture *Gyôseishoshi* (Certified Administrative Procedures Specialist) Association and the Nagaoka City International Affairs Center will provide legal consultations free of charge for anyone including individuals or corporate representatives.

Date: Saturday, March 23, 2013 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
 Venue: Nagaoka City International Affairs Center,
Chikyû Hiroba Phone: 0258-39-2714
 2-2-6 Ôte Street
 (a five-minute walk from Nagaoka Station)

Gyôseishoshi (Certified Administrative Procedures Specialist) specializing in immigration procedures can give consultations on:
 procedures for entry into Japan, residence status, permanent residence, naturalization, corporate establishment, permission to start a business, international marriage or divorce, inheritance, student' working visas, etc.

Available Languages: Chinese, English, and Japanese
 Consultations will be conducted only in person. Consultations over the phone will not be available. No appointment is necessary for consultations.

For further information:

Niigata Prefecture *Gyôseishoshi* Association
 Phone: 025-255-5225
 Nagaoka City International Affairs Center
 Phone: 0258-29-2714

A Temporary Day-Care Service for Convalescent Children

On Friday, March 1st, a temporary day-care service for convalescent children recovering from illnesses started at *Kodomo Keyaki En* Nursery School, in addition to four other nursery schools that already provide this service.

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Monday – Friday
 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Saturdays

This service is provided for children who are not allowed to join group day care at nursery schools or kindergartens due to their illnesses or whose working parents cannot take care of their convalescent children.

This day care service is offered to children attending nursery schools or kindergartens and elementary school children up to 3rd grade. A physician's diagnosis about the child's recovery process is required. Fees vary up to a maximum of ¥2,000 per day, depending on guardians' tax assessments.

For further information: *Hoiku Ka* (Child-Care Division)
 Phone: 0258-39-2219

Information from the Niigata Labor Bureau

Phone: 025-288-3503 Fax: 025-288-3515

1-2-1 Misaki-chô, Chûô-ku, Niigata City 950-8625

Q: I've been working for my company for a year. This month, for the first time, my salary wasn't deposited into my bank account on my payday. The same goes for many of my coworkers, too. My employer told us that wages would be deposited into our bank accounts a week later than the fixed date due to unavoidable circumstances. Do I have to accept this delay?

A: The Labor Standards Law Article 24 stipulates, "Wages must be paid at least once a month, at a definite date." The matter in question is violating the law because the delay in pay, not just a postponed payday due to a company holiday, could affect the workers' monthly budget. Therefore, you have the right to demand from your company the prompt payment of your wages.