



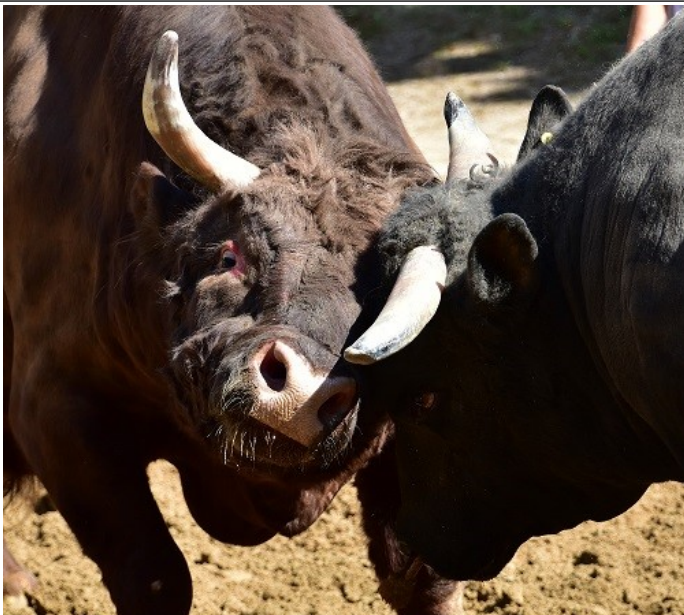
Vol. 325
June
2018

Konnichiwa!

NAGAOKA

International Affairs Division, Nagaoka City Office
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E-mail: intlexchange@city.nagaoka.lg.jp

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



Ushi no Tsuno Tsuki (Crashing of Bulls' Horns) A Tradition Spanning a Millennium

This year marks the 40th anniversary since the tradition of bullfighting in the Yamakoshi district was designated as an important national treasure of intangible folk culture.

The specific feature of this tradition is to pull the two bulls apart at the climax of fighting without deciding victory or defeat. Matches are scheduled to be held at Yamakoshi Bullfighting Ground from May to November.

For further information:
Yamakoshi Bullfighting Association
Phone: 0258-59-3933



The 400th Anniversary of the Establishment of Nagaoka Chapter 4

長岡開府400年
ROOTS
400 越後長岡

The year 2018 marks the centennial of the establishment of the city's first public library. The Nagaoka City Taisho Memorial *Goson* Library opened at 1-chome Higashi Sakanoue-machi on June 8th, 1918. In commemoration of Emperor Taisho's coronation, Mr. Kyohachiro Nomoto (1852-1936), a businessman and an educator, donated to the city funds to build a library named *Goson Bunko*.

Mr. Nomoto was also known as the Venerable *Goson* because he advocated a philosophical teaching known as "*Goson Dokuson*," which encourages people to respect others as well as themselves. He believed that a library is the ideal place for people to learn about and fulfill this teaching through reading books.

On August 1st, 1945, *Goson Bunko* burned down during the Nagaoka Air Raid, losing its entire collection. However, three years later, the library was rebuilt in Meiji Park, thanks to the contributions made by Mr. Denkichi Naito, a businessman in the textile industry.

The *Goson Bunko* Library has been an educational foundation of the city that emphasizes the importance of nurturing youth based on the spirit of One Hundred Sacks of Rice, a philosophical teaching which the citizens of Nagaoka take pride in and draw courage from.



The former
Goson Bunko Library

Population and Households
As of May 1st, 2018
(compared to the previous month)

272,080 (+64)	132,931 (+75)	139,149 (-11)	107,121 (+403)

Major Features:

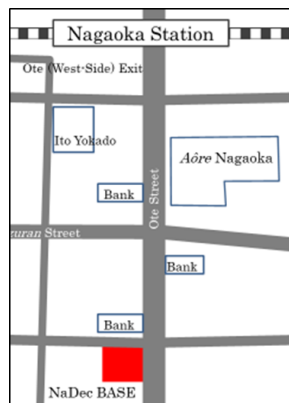
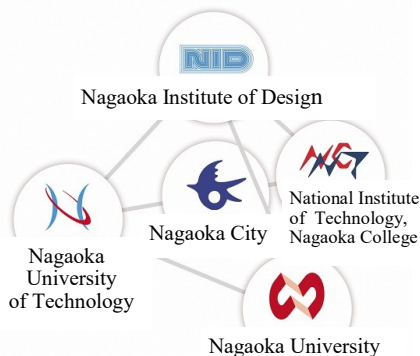
NaDeC BASE -----	2
Cross-Cultural Exchanges with Our Sister Cities -----	2
The Nagaoka Municipal Auditorium Renovated -----	2
Prepare for the Rainy Season (<i>Tsuyu</i>) -----	3
The Child Allowance System -----	3
Sign up for the Nagaoka Summer Festival Now! -----	6
Seasonal Events -----	6-7
A Partial Subsidy for Rubella Vaccinations -----	8



NaDeC BASE

Headquarters Connecting Academia, Businesses, and the City

NaDeC BASE opened in the former Daiwa Department Store building (Carnation Plaza) on Saturday, June 2nd. NaDeC is a portmanteau that comes from Nagaoka and Delta Cone (a triangular pyramid). NaDeC BASE functions as the headquarters for various exchange programs between the citizens of Nagaoka and students from the three universities and one college of technology all located in the city.



Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. (weekdays)
10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. (Saturdays)
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Sundays and Holidays)

Cross-Cultural Exchanges with Our Sister Cities

A Business Exchange Program with Fort Worth, Texas, U.S.A.



For three days from May 8th, the Official Fort Worth Delegation consisting of 18 members visited Nagaoka as a part of the commemoration program celebrating the 30th anniversary of our sister city affiliation that was established in 1987.

Members of local corporations including the Nagaoka International Business Studies Association and representatives from food production firms in Fort Worth got together and exchanged various food- and drink-related business information.

Participants enjoyed taste-testing each firm's proud productions including fermented food such as *miso* and *shôyu* from Nagaoka as well as pickles and whisky from Fort Worth. They hope that this kind of business exchange program helps them profit by broadening their market.

Academic Exchange Programs between the Nagaoka Institute of Design and the Trier University of Applied Science



On May 18th, 2018, the Nagaoka Institute of Design (NID) and the Trier University of Applied Science signed an agreement in order to promote friendship and exchange programs for educational and research purposes.

In June 2017, representatives from NID visited Trier on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of the Sister City Affiliation between the Cities of Nagaoka and Trier. During their stay in Trier, they visited the German university, which is one of the most outstanding academic institutions in the field of design, and decided to establish an academic collaboration. Both institutions will further discuss regarding:

- hosting joint workshops with students from both institutions
- sending and accepting exchange students and visiting professors
- offering a credit transfer system

The Nagaoka Municipal Auditorium Renovated

(長岡市立劇場・ながおか しりつ げきじょう)

The Nagaoka Municipal Auditorium, adjacent to the *Saiwai Plaza* in Saiwai-cho, will reopen on July 1st, 2018 after being renovated. The main hall, with improved acoustics, will have earthquake-resistant ceilings that are strong enough to withstand a seismic intensity of 6 on the Japanese scale. An elevator will also be added to the main entrance.



Preview Event

June 24 (Sun.) 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome. Admission is free.

Mini Concerts by: The Nagaoka Boys' and Girls' Choir
The *Gakki no Dôbutsuen* Wind Band

Starting at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Joint Concert by:

The Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra and the Nagaoka Phoenix Choir consisting of 100 citizens
July 1 (Sun.) 3:00 p.m.

Tickets: ¥5,000 (S seat) and ¥4,000 (A seat)

Available at the Nagaoka City Foundation for the Promotion of Art and Culture

Phone: 0258-29-7715

Prepare for the Rainy Season (*Tsuyu*)

The rainy season, *tsuyu* in Japanese, usually starts in June and continues until the middle or the end of July.

During *tsuyu*, we usually have light rain, heavy rain, or even rainstorms. You are advised to pay due attention during heavy rains.

Temperatures are not stable during *tsuyu*, which may make you uncomfortable. Be aware of your health conditions and take care of yourself. There is also a higher risk of food poisoning. Mold grows easily in this season. You are advised to keep an eye on foodstuffs.

Earlier Actions Can Help You Protect Yourself and Save Your Life

In order to protect citizens from flood damage as early as possible, the city will issue a three phase-evacuation system for flooding. You are advised to protect yourself from any possible disaster by preparing for it well in advance by getting information from TV broadcasts, radio broadcasts, or a mobile phone.

The Possibility of Heavy Rain

Orders to Prepare for Evacuation and Orders for the Elderly and Others Needing Assistance to Begin Evacuating (*Hinan Junbi-Koreishatô Hinan Kaishi*)

- The possibility of disaster is increasing.
- Begin preparations for evacuation.
- At this time, shelters will be established.
- People who require extra time to evacuate should use their own judgment and can begin evacuating at this time.
- Pay attention to TV and radio broadcasts for information.



Evacuation Recommendations (*Hinan Kankoku*)

- Begin evacuation calmly.
- If you have any neighbors who have difficulty in evacuating, please help them as the need arises.



Emergency Evacuation Orders (*Hinan Shiji-Kinkyû*)

- If you are in the process of evacuation, please complete evacuating.
- If you have not evacuated, please evacuate immediately.

Be Aware of Precursory Phenomena of Landslides

If you notice any precursory phenomena on slope surfaces of cliffs or mountainous areas, they may be signs of possible landslides.

For instance:

- Cracks develop on the ground surface.
- The water in rivers, wells, or mountain streams becomes muddy or the water level changes.
- Pebbles start falling.

If you notice any of these phenomena, please contact the River and Port Division (Phone: 0258-39-2233).



Landslides caused by heavy rain blocked a prefectural road in Nishi Kawaguchi. (July 19, 2017)

Ways to Get Evacuation Information

- Emergency Flash E-Mail (Area Mail)
- Nagaoka Landslide Warning D Mail
- Radio Broadcasts: FM Nagaoka (80.7 MHz), FM Niigata (77.5 MHz), FM PORT (79.0 MHz), NHK (83.7 KHz), and BSN (1062 KHz)
FM Nagaoka will interrupt regular programming to broadcast disaster information provided by Nagaoka City.
- Nagaoka Disaster Prevention Information
<http://www.bousai.city.nagaoka.niigata.jp>
- In some districts, information will be provided by communication networks of neighborhood associations, volunteer disaster prevention groups, wireless systems for disaster prevention, and the Off-Talk communication system.
- Information Service Vans
- TV broadcasts



The Child Allowance System

Jidô Teate

児童手当・じどうてあて



The city offers a child allowance to a guardian of a child with a resident registration in Nagaoka City. This system is available for any resident irrespective of nationality. The eligibility is limited to children up to and including 15 years of age until they graduate from junior high school. The monthly allowances vary depending on age groups.

Guardians who are receiving child allowances are required to submit a document (*genkyô todoke*/げんきょうとどけ・現況届)

to prove that they are still eligible to receive the allowances from this June onward as well.

An official form will be sent to applicable guardians in the middle of June. After filling out the form, it should be sent back in the enclosed envelope by Friday, June 29th.

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

The Nagaoka Civic Center

2-2-6 Ote Street, Nagaoka City (Phone: 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, Chikyū 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 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 Program

Nihongo Kôza

The 1st term of classes for the 2018 fiscal year is being offered from April 2018 to September 2018. A free trial lesson will be offered. Please call ahead.

Weekday Classes (Tuesdays & Fridays)

Basic Level I - Class 1

Minna no Nihongo Basic Level Vol. I
(Lesson 1 – Lesson 12)
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. (60 minutes)

Basic Level I - Class 2

Minna no Nihongo Basic Level Vol. I
(Lesson 13 – Lesson 25)
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (60 minutes)

June	1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29	¥1,800
July	3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27, 31	¥1,800
Aug.	7, 10, 17, 21, 24, 28, 31	¥1,400
Sept.	4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25	¥1,800



Level Vol.I



Level Vol.II



Sunday Classes

Basic Level I - Class 1

Minna no Nihongo Basic Level Vol. I
(Lesson 1 – Lesson 12)
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (120 minutes)

Basic Level I - Class 2

Minna no Nihongo Basic Level Vol. I
(Lesson 13 – Lesson 25)
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (120 minutes)

Basic Level II - Class 1

Minna no Nihongo Basic Level Vol. II
(Lesson 26 – Lesson 36)
11:45 a.m. – 1:45 p.m. (120 minutes)

June	3, 10, 17, 24	¥1,600	Aug.	5, 19, 26	¥1,200
July	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	¥2,000	Sept.	2, 9, 16, 30	¥2,000

Nihongo Hiroba

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

Sundays 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Mondays 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. (intermediate level)
Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Fridays 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



Join the International Folk Dance Parade ~ Dancing with Friends from around the World ~

The Nagaoka City International Affairs Center, Chikyū Hiroba, invites you to participate in a folk dance parade (*Dai Minyō Nagashi*) that will be held on Ote Street during the Heiwa Sai (Peace Celebration) on the first night of the Nagaoka Festival on Wednesday, August 1st. Everyone is most welcome to join Nagaoka's traditional dance parade in the summer evening.

On the festival night, you can borrow a *yukata*, a summer cotton *kimono* outfit, and an assistant will help you put it on. Everyone is also welcome to join some practice sessions that have already been scheduled. Please join us at least two times. Everyone is required to attend the line-up practices on July 30th (Mon.). We look forward to your participation.

Registration:

June 25 (Mon.) - July 17 (Tues.)

Fill out an application form and bring/send/fax/e-mail it to Chikyū Hiroba, or call us at 0258-39-2714.

Limited to: 70 participants (on a first-come, first-served basis)

Fee: ¥500

(The fee is collected before putting on *yukata* on August 1st.)



For Further Information and Registration:

Nagaoka City International Affairs Center, Chikyū Hiroba

Phone: 0258-39-2714

Fax: 0258-39-2715

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

Child-Rearing Support Facilities

June 

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** 10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Every Day
- * **Picture Storybook Reading Time**
3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Every Day
- * **Gun Gun Kitchen Time**
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. June 4 (Mon.)
- * **Toy Plaza** 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. June 6 (Wed.)
- * **Let's Enjoy Eurhythmic**
11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. June 8 (Fri.)
- * **Child-Rearing Salon: For Mothers Who Recently Started Living in Nagaoka** 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. June 11 (Mon.)
- * **Mini-Library** 10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. June 13 (Wed.)
- * **Lecture: Talking about Nursing and Baby Food**
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. June 15 (Fri.)
- * **Happy Birthday Party**
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. June 18 (Mon.)
- * **Handicraft Cafe** 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. June 21 (Thurs.)
- * **Individual Differences in Child's Growth**
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. June 22 (Fri.)
- * **Lecture for Parents: Parents' Magic Words for Children's Self-Awareness** 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. June 23 (Sat.)
- * **Pounding Rice Cake with Yomogi (herb)**
11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. June 27 (Wed.)
- * **Safety Tips for Protecting Children in Case of a Disaster: "What to do if an earthquake hits"**
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. June 29 (Fri.)
- * **Mothers' Chat Cafe** 10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. July 6 (Fri.)



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

Kids' Plaza (Chibikko Hiroba)

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

- * **Smiley Kids Day** 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Every Friday
- * **Story Telling Time** 11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Every Day
- * **Kamishibai (Large Picture-Card Story)** June 6 (Wed.)
- * **Time for Chibikko Kids and Birthday Party**
11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. June 4 (Mon.) and 11 (Mon.)
- * **Birthday Party** June 25 (Mon.)
- * **Let's Start Reading Books**
10:00 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. June 9 (Sat.) and 17 (Sun.)
- * **How to Prepare Baby Food**
11:00 a.m. – 11:40 a.m. June 14 (Thurs.)
- * **Let's Play with Blocks**
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. June 16 (Sat.)
- * **Mothers' Chat Cafe** 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. June 18 (Mon.)
- * **Enjoy Playing to the Rhythm**
11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. June 20 (Wed.)
- * **Let's Enjoy Nursery Rhymes and Picture Storybooks**
11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. June 24 (Sun.)
- * **Wai Wai Chatting** 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. June 26 (Tues.)
- * **Playing with Picture Stories (Ehon no Tobira)**
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. June 27 (Wed.)
- * **Tanabata (Star Festival) Party**
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. July 6 (Fri.)



Free Child-Rearing Counseling 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
June 7 (Thurs.) Child-Rearing Advisor
June 21 (Thurs.) Childcare Committee Chief

Temporary Day-Care for Preschool-Aged Children: ¥300/hour

Kosodate no Eki, Senshû (Teku Teku)

1-99-6 Senshu 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)

- * **Nakayoshi Time** 10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
June 1 (Fri.), 8 (Fri.), 22 (Fri.), and 29 (Fri.)
- * **Playing Games from the Old Days**
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. June 2 (Sat.)
- * **Let's Enjoy Singing** 10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
June 4 (Mon.), 11 (Mon.), 18 (Mon.), and 25 (Mon.)
- * **Wai Wai Chatting** 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
June 7 (Thurs.) and 21 (Thurs.)
- * **"Toy Hospital" for Fixing Broken Toys**
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. June 8 (Fri.)
- * **Let's Enjoy Drawing Pictures**
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. June 11 (Mon.)
- * **Mothers' Chat Cafe**
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. June 12 (Tues.)
- * **Teku Teku Walk**
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. June 14 (Thurs.)
- * **Smiley Birthday Party**
10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. June 15 (Fri.)
- * **Lecture for Families: Let's Enjoy Rhythm Games**
10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. June 16 (Sat.)
- * **Toy Box Sunday**
10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. June 17 (Sun.)
- * **Picture Storybook Reading Time for Babies**
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. June 19 (Tues.)
- * **Let's Play at the Kids' Land**
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. June 26 (Tues.)
- * **Tanabata (Star Festival) Party**
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. July 6 (Fri.)



Free Child-Rearing Counseling 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
June 19 (Tues.) Child-Rearing Advisor

Temporary Day-Care for Preschool-Aged Children: ¥300/hour

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.
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays

- * **Suku Suku Tea Time**
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. June 1 (Fri.) and 20 (Wed.)
- * **Let's Play in the Temari Hall**
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. June 12 (Tues.)
- * **Making Toys** 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. June 15 (Fri.)
- * **Baby Massage** 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. June 20 (Wed.)
- * **Birthday Party** 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. June 27 (Wed.)
- * **Making Tanabata (Star Festival) Decorations**
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. June 29 (Fri.)
- * **Let's Make Triangular Chimaki (rice dumplings wrapped in sasa bamboo grass)**
10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. June 30 (Sat.)
- * **Special Sunday Market for Tochio Products**
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. June 3 (Sun.)



Free Child-Rearing Counseling 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
June 6 (Wed.) Maternity Nurse
June 22 (Fri.) Public Health Nurse



Seasonal Events



Sign Up for the Nagaoka Summer Festival Now! You are most welcome to join:

Tôrô Nagashi (releasing paper lanterns in memory of the 1945 air raid victims)

August 1 (Wed.) 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Between Ichinohashi Bridge and
Oimawashi Bridge on the Kaki River
1,486 lanterns on a first-come,
first-served basis
Nagaoka *Sên-en Kaigisho*
(Nagaoka Junior Chamber)
Phone: 0258-34-0069



Dai Minyô Nagashi (Folk Dance Parade) →see p.4

August 1 (Wed.) 7:25 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
Group Registration: By June 11 (Mon.)
Nagaoka *Shôkô Kaigisho*
(Nagaoka Chamber of Commerce and
Industry)
Phone: 0258-32-4500



Otedori Shôtengai Mikoshi (Portable Shrine Parade)

August 1 (Wed.) 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Fee: Free (¥500 for participants who join the 7:00 p.m. event)
You can borrow a *happi* coat.
Registration: By July 6 (Fri.)
Otedori *Shôtengai Jimukyoku*
(Otedori Shopping Mall Office)
Phone: 0258-30-5590
(9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. on weekdays)



Mantô Mikoshi (Portable Shrine Parade)

August 1 (Wed.) 8:50 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. (tentative)
Meet in front of Nagaoka Grand Hotel at 6:30 p.m.
You can borrow a *happi* coat.
Fee: ¥1,000 (drinks and laundry fee for a *happi* coat)
Registration with your name, gender, address, and
telephone number:
Kome Hyappyô Mikoshi Kai Uchiyama-San

Stage Performances

August 2 (Thurs.) 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Ote Street
Registration: By June 15 (Fri.)
Nagaoka Incorporated Association of Tourism and Conventions
Phone: 0258-32-1187 (9:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m./weekdays)

Tickets for the 2018 Nagaoka Festival Grand Fireworks Show How to Get Tickets for Prepaid Areas

Riverbanks on the Nagaoka Station Side

- Phoenix Area with ground sheets
- Phoenix Area with chairs and tables

Riverbanks on the Nagaoka IC Side

- Plot Area
- Seating Area with tables and chairs
- Seating Area with chairs

◇ From May 6 (Sun.):

Tickets can be purchased at convenience stores
(Seven-Eleven, Lawson, or Family Mart) on a
first-come, first-served basis.



Riverbanks on the Nagaoka Station Side and Nagaoka IC Side

- Plot Area
- Photographers' Area

Riverbanks on the Nagaoka Station Side

- Low Bleachers
- Seating Area with chairs
- Special Needs Area

◇ June 30 (Sat.) – July 16 (Mon./Holiday):

Internet purchases for unsold/canceled tickets will be
available on a first-come, first-served basis.

◇ July 14 (Sat.) – July 31 (Tues.):

Unsold/canceled tickets can be purchased at ticket offices.

◇ Aug. 2 (Thurs.) and Aug. 3 (Fri.):

Unsold/canceled tickets can be purchased at the
designated sites on a first-come, first-served basis.

The proceeds will be used for setting up fireworks viewing sites and for maintaining a safe and secure environment.

For further information: Nagaoka Fireworks Ticket Center

Phone: 0570-082-083

<http://nagaokamatsuri.com/>



**Enjoy the Nagaoka Fireworks via
the Nagaoka Fireworks Official App**



The city has provided an app exclusively for smartphone users. The app provides updated information about various things such as the fireworks launching schedule, tickets for the pre-paid areas, transportation, traffic restrictions, traffic congestion, parking lots, etc.

Hotaru (Firefly) Watching

Koshiji Hotaru (Firefly) Festival June 23 (Sat.) 4:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

- Mini Concert
(choirs and handbell music)
at Tsukayama Nambu Sports Center
- Firefly Watching at the Ushi no Kubi Area
(a 10-minute walk from the sports center)



Nagaoka's naturally blessed environment provides many habitats for fireflies. One of these is Koshiji, which is known as a land of fluttering fireflies. The mystical world of twinkling fireflies fluttering and dancing along in the dark, a special seasonal feature in summer, is a must-see! Firefly-watching events are held in the Koshiji District every summer.

Visitors can enjoy watching the twinkling of fireflies as well as live choir and handbell performances. To get to the event site, you can catch a bus bound for Oguni from Nagaoka Station and get off at "Hasegawatei Mae."

Hotaru Fantasy (Bus Tour to a Firefly Watching Site) June 21 (Thurs.), 24 (Sun.) – 26 (Tues.), and 30 (Sat.) 7:15 p.m. – 9:45 p.m.

Meet at *A ôre* Nagaoka or Koshiji Branch Office
Limited to: 20 participants per day
(on a first-come, first-served basis)
Fee: ¥500 (¥250 for elementary school children and under)
Registration: June 7 (Thurs.) – June 14 (Thurs.)
Sangyô Kensetsu Ka (Industrial Construction Division)
Koshiji Branch Office Phone: 0258-92-5903
<http://www.city.nagaoka.niigata.jp/kankou/event/kosijihotaru>

Firefly Watching in the Tomoegaoka *Shizen Kôen* June 16 (Sat.) 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Meet at Koshiji Taiikukan, please bring your own flashlight.
Registration: June 15 (Fri.)
Koshiji Taiikukan
Phone: 0258-92-4826



Earth Market

June 24 (Sun.) 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
City Hall Plaza - *Aore* Nagaoka



The Earth Market is an event in which international students from various countries will introduce their traditions and cultures. You can enjoy a variety of cuisine and music from many parts of the world.

For further information:
Organizing Committee of the Earth Market in Nagaoka
Phone: 0258-36-3366

Rose Festival at Echigo *Kyûryô Kôen*

May 26 (Sat.) - June 17 (Sun.)
9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

June 2 (Sat.), 3 (Sun.), 9 (Sat.),
and 10 (Sun.)

7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Enjoy the sweet fragrance of nearly 700 different species of gorgeous roses blooming on about 2,400 plants.



Echigo *Kyûryô Kôen* (Echigo Hillside Park)
Phone: 0258-47-8001
<http://echigo-park.jp/event/news/1441.html>

The National Log-Sawing Competition

Aug. 16 (Thurs.) 9:00 a.m. –

Parking lot beside
the Nagaoka City Mishima Sports Gym

The team of two contestants (in three categories of men or mixed pairs, women only, and elementary school children) who can saw through a *sugi* (Japanese cedar) log the fastest will be crowned the champions.

Prizes:

- Participation Prizes for each contestant
- Prizes for Runners-up
- Special Prizes for the Champions
 - 60 kilogram of Rice
 - 20 kilogram of *Miso* (Bean Paste)
 - 15 1.8-liter bottles of Japanese *Sake*



Application Period: June 18 (Mon.) - July 17 (Tues.)

180 teams (on a first-come, first-served basis)

Fill out an application form available at Mishima Branch Office or Website (<https://e-mishima.info/>) and send, fax, or e-mail it to:

Sangyô Kensetsu Ka (Industrial Construction Division)
1261-1 Kami Iwai
Phone: 0258-42-2249 Fax: 0258-42-3534
E-mail: msm-sangyo@city.nagaoka.lg.jp

A Temporary Day-Care Service for Sick or Convalescent Children

A temporary day-care service for sick or convalescent children newly started at two facilities in addition to the five other facilities that already provide this service.

This service is provided for children who are not allowed to attend nursery schools, kindergartens, or elementary schools due to their illnesses or whose working parents cannot take care of them at home.

Nurses or nursery school teachers can take care of these children at designated nursery schools or other medical fa-

cilities. The fees vary, up to a maximum of ¥2,000 per day, depending on guardians' tax assessments.

Prior application and a physician's diagnosis about the child's recovery process are required.



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

Major Emergency Medical Facilities

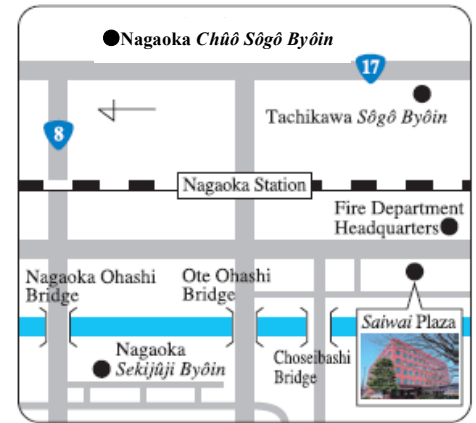


Major General Hospitals

Nagaoka *Chû 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
 Civic Health Center (*Saiwai Plaza*) 0258-39-7508

Information about clinics in charge of specific Sundays or holidays:

- Clinic for Sundays, Holidays, and Nights (in *Saiwai Plaza*) 0258-37-1199
- Nagaoka Medical Society 0258-22-5600
- Nagaoka Fire Department Headquarters 0258-36-0119



Civic Health Center (*Saiwai Plaza* – 1F)

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 clinics in charge of specific Sundays or holidays.	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. – 4:30 p.m.
	Pediatrics (<i>Shônika</i>)	(Sundays and Holidays) 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
	Surgery (<i>Geka</i>)	(Sundays and Holidays) 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 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.
Chuetsu Center for Children's Emergency Treatment (0258-86-5099)	Pediatrics (<i>Shônika</i>)	(Monday – Saturday) 6:45 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

This Month's Useful Japanese Expressions

In this section, you can get some useful information for daily living and learn related Japanese expressions.

***Fushin*/ふうしん・風疹 (rubella or German measles)**

***Mashin*/ましん・麻疹 or *hashika*/はしか (measles)**

Fushin and *mashin* are infectious diseases that are transmitted from human to human via the *fushin* virus (the rubella virus) and the *mashin* virus (the measles virus), respectively.

The symptoms include a fever, rash, headache, runny nose, coughing, and others. A patient diagnosed with *fushin* has a rash when being diagnosed. The rash usually disappears in about three days.

A patient diagnosed with *mashin* or *hashika* develops a rash on the face, body, and even inside the mouth about several days after being diagnosed. The rash usually lasts about two weeks.

Vaccinations can help you raise your immunity against these infectious diseases of *fushin* (rubella or German measles) and *mashin* (measles).



A Partial Subsidy for Rubella Vaccinations



The City of Nagaoka provides adults with a partial subsidy for rubella, also known as German measles, vaccinations.

Adults with a low rubella antibody count can apply for this subsidy. An examination to check your rubella antibody count is necessary prior to application.

Adults who have already contracted rubella or who had a rubella vaccination before cannot apply for this subsidy. Women who want to conceive can apply for this subsidy along with their housemates.

The partial subsidy will be ¥6,000 for a combined vaccination and ¥4,000 for a single rubella vaccination.

For further information: *Kenkô Ka* (Health Division)
 Phone: 0258-39-7508

Apology

The July issue of *Konnichiwa Nagaoka*, which will include detailed information about the Nagaoka Festival, will be published on July 26th at the latest. The reason for this delay is that we are usually able to get updates about the festival after mid-July. The editor would like to apologize for any inconveniences that may be caused by the delay.