

Local Research Facilities Open to Public During Summer Holidays

1. Tsukuba Expo Center (Tsukuba City Azuma 2-9 TEL 029-858-1100)

Special Event: "Kaleidoscope: Scientific Art of Light"

Date: July 17 ~ August 31st from 9:50~17:00

2. National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) (Tsukuba City Umezono1-1-1 Tsukuba Central 2) TEL 029-862-6214

Date and time : July 24 from 9:30~16:30

Contents • Special lectures by researchers, tour of the research facilities, booth for experiencing science, mysterious science experiment show, and more.

3. Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute (FFPRI) display room

Display of stuffed animals (taxidermies), simple experiments using timber. Date: From July 17~August 31 from 10:00~16:00

Contact: Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute Public Relations, Matsunosato 1 , Tel: 029-829-8134

4. Tsukuba Agriculture Research Gallery (Tsukuba City Kannondai 3-1-1 / TEL 029-838-8980)

Time and date : July 24th from 9:00~16:00

Main events: Play with Science, measure various things, watch small insects with microscope, taste research products and more.

5. Tsukuba Botanical Garden (Tsukuba City Amakubo 4-1-1, Tel: 029-851-5159)

Exhibition "Botanical Garden Fiesta", special display "insects and plants", making postcards and bookmarks.

6. Building Research Institute

Make interesting objects using concrete or experience the shaking of skyscrapers, and more.

Date: Pavilion July 20~August 31 (except on weekends)

Experiment Buildings Tour July 28 from 13:00~16:00

July 31 from 10:00~16:00 * Reservation required

Contact: Building Research Institute General Affairs Department General Affairs Division, Tachihara 1, TEL: 029-864-2151

7. High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK) KEK Communication Plaza

Learn about the principle of the accelerator, sub-nuclear particles, observe cosmic radiation, look at the 3 dimensional structure of protein using radiation.

Date: Everyday from 9:30~16:30 (Closed from August 18~20)

Contact: High Energy Particle Accelerator Public Relations Room, Oho 1-1, TEL: 029-879-6047

8. JAXA Tsukuba Space Center (Tsukuba City, Sengen2-1-1 / TEL 029-868-2023)

The pavilion reopens on July 17

Date : Every Day 10:00~17:00 (Reception is until 16:00)

9. Meteorological Research Institute, Aerological Observatory, Japan Meteorological Agency

"Climate Fair 2010 Tsukuba". Tour of research facilities, observation of meteorological experiments and more.

Date: August 4 from 10:00~16:00

Contact: Meteorological Research Institute Planning Division, Nagamine 1-1, TEL: 029-853-8541

10. National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention (Tsukuba City, Tennoudai 3-1. TEL 029-863-7792)

Time and Date : July 30th, August 5th, 13th and 27th

Open: 10:30~11:30 , 14:00~15:00

Dr. Avalanche Rangers very popular "Summer Natural Disaster Science Experiment Classroom" will be held during the above times. This Classroom uses demonstrations about natural disasters and is fun and easy to understand

11. Geospatial Authority of Japan. The Science Museum of Maps and Survey

Opening hours: 9:30~16:30 Closed on: Mondays (if Monday is public holiday then closed on the next day)

Contact: Geo-spatial Authority of Japan, The Science Museum of Maps and Survey 1 Kitasato Tsukuba City. TEL: 029-864-1872

12. National Institute for Environmental Studies (Tsukuba City Onogawa 16-2 / TEL 029-850-2453)

Time and date : July 24th 9:30~16:00

Observe living creatures and visit the research facilities. Lectures about Global Warming and Eco-bags will be given away. There will also be guided tours of NIES in English from 10:30 am and 2pm (Maximum of 20 people).

13. National Archives of Japan Tsukuba Branch (Kamizawa 6-6, TEL: 029-867-1910)

Learn the origin of weather observation, history of weather and think about problems of global warming. Experience the traditional book binding of "kouki toji" (Reservation required)

Date: July 20~August 31 from 9:30~16:30. *Closed on weekends and public holidays except for Saturdays in August.

Tsukuba Chibikko Hakase 2010: July 17~ August 31

This is a stamp rally of visiting many research facilities in Tsukuba.

"Most Outstanding Tsukuba Chibikko Hakase": Visit and get stamps from more than 18 places and write impression in about 400 letters.

"Excellent Tsukuba Chibikko Hakase": visit and get stamps from more than 12 places

"Tsukuba Chibikko Hakase" visit and get stamps from more than 6 places.

The Tsukuba Chibikko passport and pamphlets are distributed at the following locations: 1) Tsukuba City Hall General Information Desk. 2) Oho Customer service Center. 3) Toyosato Customer service Center. 4) Yatabe Customer service Center. 5) Sakura Customer service Center. 6) Tsukuba Customer service Center. 7) Kukizaki Customer service Center. 8) Yukari no Mori Insectarium. 9) Tsukuba City General Information Center (TX Tsukuba Station pathway). 10) Tsukuba Science Information Center. 11) Tsukuba Community Support Center. 12) Tsukuba International Conference Hall. 13) Tsukuba City Tokyo Office (8th floor Dai Building Akihabara). * It will be distributed at schools for Primary and Junior High School Students who would like to participate. For: Primary and Junior High School students. Infants may also participate however they will not be certified.

NOTE: Do not visit the same facility twice on the same day. After the period of collecting stamps is over, submit your passport to the office. The passports will be sent back with the certificate approximately in December. However, participant may not get certified depending on the contents of the passport. Contact: Education Division, Tsukuba Chibikko Hakase Office. TEL: 029-883-1111

Tsukuba Science Information Center Reopen

The Tsukuba Science Information Center will reopen together with the commencement of the Tsukuba Chibikko Hakase at 10:15am July 17. This facility provides information on the various Scientific Institutions within Tsukuba together with information for foreigners and other citizens. Conference rooms are also available for a fee (Large: 100 people, Medium: 20 people, 2 rooms). Opening hours 9:00~22:00. * From 10:45 On July 17, due to the opening ceremony open. Closed on Mondays (Closed on Tuesday if Monday is a public holiday, also closed from December 29~January 3). Conference room: 9:00~22:00. Exhibition room: 9:00~17:45.



the **tsukuba**

JULY 2010

bulletin

TSUKUBA CITY HALL
International Affairs Division
Karima 2530-2, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, 305-8555
(Kenkyugakuen D32 Block 2)
TEL: 029-883-1111
Email: ctz031@info.tsukuba.ibaraki.jp

Childcare Allowance (*kodomo fuyou teate*) for Single-Father Families from August 1st

Childcare allowance which used to be for Single-Mother families will also be provided to Single-Father families from August 1st. (Allowance from August to November will be provided in December this year). Application (Childcare Allowance Authorization Form) to the City is necessary to receive the allowance. There will be no allowance without an application, so apply before November 30th. (If the application is made after November 30th the allowance will be given from the month following the application date)

Conditions for the Allowance

The allowance will be given if the parent is taking care of and sharing the livelihood with the child until the first March 31st after the child becomes 18 (if there is a physical or mental disability then until the child becomes 20). However, people receiving public pensions other than the Senior Welfare Pension do not qualify for this allowance.

Income Restrictions

If the income of eligible recipients, their spouses or people who live together and are responsible for the support of the children, exceeds the limit, a portion of the allowance or none at all will be given.

Amount of the child allowance

| No. of children | Full amount | Partial amount |
|-----------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | ¥41,720 monthly | From ¥41,710 to ¥9,850 |
| 2 | ¥46,270 monthly | Above amount plus ¥5,000 |
| 3 or more | ¥3000 per child monthly after the 3 rd child | |

Application and Contact

A Childcare Allowance Authorization Form "*nintei seikyu-sho*" needs to be submitted to the Childrens Division. Other necessary documents depend on the applicants, so please contact the address below for more information:

Childrens Division, Tsukuba City Hall 1st Floor
TEL: 029-883-1111

Have you applied for the Child Allowance (*kodomo teate*)?

Since April, people raising children until the age of finishing Junior High School will be given the Child Allowance "*kodomo teate*" of 13,000 yen per child. The application forms were sent at the end of April to people who need to apply. Application deadline is September 30th. Contact: Childrens Division, Tsukuba City Hall 1st Floor. TEL: 029-883-1111

Notice from the Health Insurance and Pension Division

Time to renew the "maximum applicable certificate and the Obligatory fees reduction certificate"

The validity of the current certificate ends on July 31. If you need to renew the certificate, please apply before it expires. Contact Tsukuba City Hall Health Insurance and Pensions Division or the Customer Services Center for more information. TEL: 029-883-1111

Payment deadline for National Health Insurance Tax for 1st Period is August 2nd: Contact the Health Insurance and Pensions Division for more details: TEL: 029-883-111

Notice from the International Affairs Division

1. International Exchange Information Corner
There is an International Exchange Information Corner on the 2nd floor of the new Tsukuba City Hall. There are Foreign Language Tsukuba Bulletin, Daily Lifestyle Handy books, and several other information which are helpful for daily living. Please visit this corner if you are nearby.

2. Tsukuba City Information (Tsukuba City English Website) <http://www.tsukubainfo.jp/>

This site introduces some important information in English to help foreign residents or people visiting Tsukuba City. The Tsukuba Bulletin can also be downloaded from here.

3. Multilingual Automatic Translation

<http://www.city.tsukuba.ibaraki.jp/005511.html>

The above site automatically translates the Tsukuba City Homepage to English, Chinese (simplified or traditional letters), and Korean. However, please be careful that the translation may not be accurate since the translation is done automatically.

Multilingual Living Information

The Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR) explains important information regarding medical care, education, emergency, natural disasters in 13 languages. Below is the website for the various information in various languages. <http://www.clair.or.jp/tagengo/index.html>

Bus Information

Tsukubus :Tsukubus stops in front of the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) on July 24, the open day for this facility.

Free Loop Bus: This bus stops at the NIES and also stops at AIST on July 24th, the Open day of these Institutions. The bus operates every 10 minutes from 9:00~17:00.

Bus Route: Tsukuba Center →NIES→AIST

Special Summer Schedule Science Tour Bus

The 'Science Tour Bus' visits all the facilities that offer exhibits and tours. Usually only operating on weekends and holidays, this bus will operate every day from July 17~August 31 except for July 20 and the following Mondays. With the one-day pass, unlimited number of rides per day is possible. (adults ¥500, Elem. School children ¥250). The bus leaves from Tsukuba Bus Terminal No. 8.

Guided Tour: Date: Weekends and public holidays from 9:40~. Route: Geospatial Authority of Japan→Tsukuba Botanical Garden →AIST→JAXA.

Maximum number of people 40 people per day. Reservations must be made by phone by day before the tour.

The age limit for receiving the Infants Medical Welfare Allowance (*maru fuku*) will be changed

From October 1, the Infants Medical Welfare Allowance (*maru fuku*) will become Childrens Medical Allowance. The change will boost the age restriction to 9 years old from the beginning of school age. This means that *maru fuku* will be given for children until the age of 9 (* Conditions apply). Income limit may apply, so please contact the Medical Welfare Relations, Health Insurance and Pensions Division at the Tsukuba City Hall for more information. TEL: 029-883-111

Events in Tsukuba

1. Mount Tsukuba Sanroku Nature School

A. Summer Insects and Insects Expedition

Event A will be held on July 17 from 9:30~14:30. Search and observe insects active during summer. There will also be flowing noodles “*nagashi soumen*” for lunch. Maximum number of 60 people including parents and children. Participation fee is 900 yen for Primary School level or older students. 700 yen for infants (Meal and insurance)

B. Observation of Mountain Creatures

Event B will be held on July 31 from 9:30~14:30. Search and observe mountain creatures near the base of Mount Tsukuba. *Nagashi soumen* for lunch. For parents and children at or above primary school level. Maximum number of 40 people with participation fee of 900 yen per person (meals and insurance).

C. Watching Insects at Night

Held on August 8 from 16:00~20:00, insects gathered on tree sap or near light sources can be observed. Onigiri bento provided. Maximum number of 40 parents and children at or above primary school level. 900 yen per person. (meals and insurance)

Application Method for A~C

Get an application number by phone, fill in the application number, postal address, name and school year of child, with contact information and post or fax to the following address:

Application/Question

Tsukuba Fureai no Sato, Usui 2090-20, 〒300-4211, TEL: 029-866-1519

Application accepted from July 2. * 9:00~17:00 Closed on Tuesdays. Fax: 029-866-1513

2. Arts and Crafts Using Japanese Paper

This event is held at the Shimin Kenshu Center on July 25,26 from 10 am ~ 3pm. Make change box looking like a cake using Japanese paper. For primary school students and their guardians (only children is also possible). Participation fee is 1000 yen, maximum number of 20 groups. Items to bring: newspaper 10 pages, large plastic bag, tissue for wiping hands, drinks, lunch. Apply by phone until the day before the event. Inquiries: Shimin Kenshu Center, Houjou 1477-1. TEL: 029-867-1153

3. “Tsukuba Rinrin Road” Photo Contest

To share the beauty and pleasantness of Tsukuba Rinrin Road, the “Tsukuba Rinrin Road Photo Contest” will be held again this year. There are prizes as well so please send your work.

Deadline: September 30. Categories: 1: Children (Grade 4 Elem. School~ Grade 3 Junior High School) 2: General Prizes for each category, Best award one person, Mayors award 3 people, excellence award 5 people (for the general category the Best award prize is a gift card worth 30,000 yen, there are many other prizes as well). Get application form from pamphlets or homepage and send to the following address: Contact: Planning and Management Division, 5th floor Tsukuba City Hall. TEL: 029-883-1111

4. Participants for the Tsukuba Festival 2010

Tsukuba Festival will be held on the 28th and 29th of August. The organizers are looking for enthusiastic participants for the followings:

1. Nebuta parade's haneto: Nebuta is a special float, originating from Aomori prefecture. In a parade of *nebutas*, dancers called *hanetos* dance around the float. Anybody can participate in the parade as a *haneto*. Persons who wish to participate could apply via fax or e-mail by 23rd of August.

Inquiries: Nebuta Office, **TEL:**090-8891-4578 (ask for Mr. Gokita); **FAX:**029-856-6880;

E-mail: info@tsukubanebuta.com ;

URL:http://www.tsukubanebuta.com

2. Pulling the bampaku float: Among *nebuta* floats and portable shrines, 1985 EXPO commemorative floats will also appear in the festival. Organizers are looking for elementary school children willing to parade the float. (On the day of the festival the children need to be accompanied by a guardian or a parent.) Apply via fax or email before July 30.

Inquiries: Tsukuba Festival Planning Committee (Tsukuba City Hall, Tourism Division, **TEL:029-836-1111** fax029(868)7615. Email eco040@info.tsukuba.ibaraki.jp

3. Tsukuba performance stage participants: On the 29th of August the Tsuchiura Gakuen-sen (Between Higashi Ōdōri and Nishi Ōdōri) will be turned into a pedestrian paradise and dancing performances will be held on the street. Apply via fax or email by the 23rd of July.

Inquiries:Tsukuba Festival Planning Committee (Tsukuba City Hall, Tourism Division, TEL:029-886-1111 . Fax: 029(868)7615. Email eco040@info.tsukuba.ibaraki.jp

Pool Information

Here are some swimming pools in and near Tsukuba:

1. Hanabatake Kinrin Park. Location: Tsukuba-shi, Hanabatake 3-11-5. Open: July and August. TEL:029-864-2221

2.Ninomiya Park Pool: Operating in July and August

Location: Tsukuba-shi, Ninomiya 1-15

TEL:029-851-4439

3. Doho Park Pool: Open throughout the year

Location: Ninomiya 2-20. TEL: 029-852-1432

4. Tsukuba Wellness Park: Open throughout the year

Location: Yamaki 1565. TEL: 029-867-5210

5. Hotel Lakeside Tsukuba: Open July and August

Location: Shimoiwasaki 708-1. TEL: 029-867-5050

6. Sanuma Sun Beach. Open in July and August

Location: Shimotsuma City, Nagatsuka 4-1. TEL: 0296-43-6661

7. Tsukuba Fureai Center Nagamine. Open throughout the year. Location: Tsuchiura City, Ooaza Nakamura Nishine 2078-1. TEL: 029-830-5600

8. Suigo Pool. Open in July and August.

Location: Tsuchiura Ooiwata 601. TEL: 029-824-6432

Tsukuba Wellness Park has Opened

“Heath Plaza” has hot bath, heated pool and training gym. “Sekishou Challenge Stadium” is for soccer and futsal games. There is also multipurpose sports field for soccer, rugby, ground golf, and more. Check the following website for more information:

<http://www.tsukubawellnesspark.com/index.html>

Ninomiya Park Swimming Lesson

Date: July 26~30 from 13:00~14:30

Location: Ninomiya Park Pool. Fees 4700yen (including insurance). Instructor: NPO Tsukuba Aqua Life

Courses: 1) Absolute Beginners: (unable to swim more than 10 m). 2) Beginners: (able to swim more than 10 m but run out of breath). 3) Intermediate: (able to swim more than 10 m and do not run out of breath)

For primary school students who are over 130 cm. Maximum number people,10, first come first serve. Apply via phone or directly. Contact: Ninomiya park management office, TEL:029-851-4439. 9:00~17:00. Urban Facilities Management Division. TEL: 029-883-1111, Tsukuba City Hall 3rd Floor

Let's Travel From Ibaraki Airport

Ibaraki→Seoul (Incheon) 2hours 20minutes

Ibaraki →Kobe 1 hour 20 minutes

(Kobe Flights ends on August 31, 2010)

Festivals and Fireworks Displays

29th Kappa Festival

Ushiku is traditionally famous for Kappa legend and will celebrate this festival on July 31 and August 1. It will be held at the Hanamizuki Street, Ushiku City Hall, Kinrin Park (Park beside the City Hall). There will be dance parades, “Ibaraiga R”, impersonation shows, live concerts . (Cancelled in case of rain)

Contact: Ushiku Kappa Festival Planning Committee , Ushiku City Tourist Association. TEL: 029-874-5554

Fireworks Display near Tsukuba

1. Sumidagawa fireworks display(Tōkyo, Taitō-ku-Sumida-ku)

The biggest fireworks display in Japan, continuing from the Edo Era. The meeting place is the riverside of Sumidagawa. Date and time: 31st of July (Sat), 19:05~20:30

Location: Sumidagawa riverside (5~15 minute walk from Asakusa Station or Kuramae station on the Toei Chikatetsu Asakusa Line)

Location 1: Sakurabashi downstream~Kototoibashi upstream.

2: Komagatabashi downstream~Umayabashi upstream

Inquiries: Sumidagawa Fireworks Display Planning Committee, TEL: 03-5608-6951

2. Mito Kōmon Festival fireworks display (Ibaraki Prefecture, Mito-shi)

It is held on the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday of August every year together with the beginning of the Mito Kōmon festival.

Date and time: 6th of August, 19:30~21:00,

Place: Lake Senba-ko

Inquiries: Mito Kōmon Festival Committee , TEL: 029-224-0441,

3. Matsudo fireworks display (Chiba prefecture, Matsudo-shi)

Date and time: 7th of August (Sat), 19:15~20:20.

Place:Edogawa riverside, 15 minutes from the west exit of the JR Matsudo station, right in front of the municipal library.

Inquiries: Matsudo Fireworks Display Planning Committee, TEL: 047-366-7327

4. Shimotsuma Sanuma Fireworks Display

Date and time: August 7th 19:30~20:50

Place: Sanuma Lakeside, Shimotsuma City, Ibaraki Prefecture.

Contact: Shimotsuma Commerce and Industry Association

5. Koga fireworks display (Ibaraki prefecture, Koga-shi)

Date and time: 7th of August (Sat), 19:10~20:40

Place:Koga Golf Links (alongside Watarasegawa), 15 minutes walking from Koga station on the JR Mito line

Inquiries: Koga City Hall, Tourism Division,

TEL: 0280-92-3111

6. Toride Tonegawa fireworks display (Ibaraki Prefecture, Toride-shi)

Date and time: 14th of August, 19:00~20:30

Place: Toride Ryoku-chi Undō Park (5 minutes walking from the east exit of the JR Toride station)

Inquiries: Toride City Tourist Association (within Toride City Hall), TEL: 0297-74-0217

7. Jōsō Kinugawa fireworks display(Ibaraki Pref., Jōsō-shi)

Date and time: 21st of August, 19:00~20:20.

Place: Hashimoto Undō Park (15 minutes walking from the Mitsukaidō station on the Kantō railway)

Inquiries: Jōsō Kinugawa Fireworks Display Planning Committee, TEL: 0297-22-2121

8. Tsuchiura National Fireworks Competition

One of the 3 biggest Fireworks display in Japan.

Date: October 2nd from 18:00~20:30

Place: Near Sakuragawa Kahangakuen Ohashi Bridge, Tsuchiura City.

Contact: Tsuchiura National Fireworks Competition Committee

*The events may be postponed in case of bad weather

*There would be control of traffic on the day

*Check the means of transport and location of parking in advance.

Library Information

Tsukuba Public Library.

PH: (856) 4311. Open : Tue ~ Fri: 9:30-19:00,

Sat/Sun/Public Holidays 9:30-17:00

There are library rooms at Yatabe, Tsukuba, Onogawa and Kukizaki Community Halls as well.(Tue - Sun: 10:00 - 18:00).

Library closed on: July 19,20,26. August 2,9,16,23,30

When borrowing from the library...

When borrowing books and other materials from the city libraries you will need a “Member’s Card”. If you are a resident of Tsukuba, you can simply apply at the central library or community center libraries by presenting some documents that state your address. Even if you do not live in Tsukuba, but work or study here, you can apply for a card, but you will also need to present a work or student ID.

Medical Check-up for Babies

Regardless of residential zone, please attend the medical check-ups for babies at the Sakura or Yatabe Health Centers. A notification will be sent to you in the month prior to the check-up day. For more information, contact the health centers or the City Hall, Health Promotion Division. Reception time 12:45~13:30, Check-up starts from 13:00. Sakura Health Center: 029-857-3931.Yatabe Health Center: 029-838-1100

Check-up at 18 months

July: babies born in Dec 2008: July 21 Sakura Health Center

August: babies born in January 2009: August 3, 25 Sakura Health Center. August 11 Yatabe Health Centre.

Check up at 3years of age

July: babies born in June 2007: July 22 Sakura Health Center. July 28 Yatabe Health Centre .

August: babies born in July 2007: August 5, 24 Sakura Health Center. August 18 Yatabe Health Centre.

Vaccinations for Infants

In Tsukuba, immunization for infants are scheduled and regulated by law. Individual immunization can be inoculated at any participating medical institution with reservation.

There are scheduled group immunization for Polio at health centers. These immunization are free for qualifying age.

Polio Vaccinations (Group Vaccination)

For siblings who are yet to be vaccinated against polio it is best to get it together. (Children between 3months~90 months)* No prior reservations needed, vaccination will be given in the order of application (reception time 13:00~14:20). Choose a date and a location that suits you best. If a child is yet to be vaccinated against Measles and Rubella, the child should get the Measles and Rubella Vaccination as a priority.

July 20 Yatabe Health Center . July 27 Sakura Health Center

International Speech Contest in Japanese

The 51st International Speech Contest in Japanese was held on June 5, 2010 at the Art and Culture Citizens Hall “Ryutopia” in Niigata City, Niigata Prefecture. From over 100 applicants, 12 qualified for the speech contest. They spoke about what they have learnt or realized from living in Japan. The following contestants received awards:

◆ Foreign Minister Award and Judges Award : Ms Yang Lu (China)

◆ Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Technology Award: Ms. Kim Gyeonghee (South Korea)

◆ Organizers Special Award: Mr. Jared Johan Dyer (USA)

The 52nd International Speech Contest in Japanese is planned to be held in Tsukuba City, on June 11, 2011.

Contact: International Education Center International Speech Contest in Japanese Office

TEL: 03-3359-9620. URL <http://www.iec-nichibei.or.jp/>