

2011 Tax Declaration Consultation Venue is at the City Hall

The 2011 tax declaration consultation on filing income tax returns and Prefectural and Municipal Tax is hosted by the Municipal Tax Division. It will be held at the Tax Consultation venue on the 2nd floor of the City Hall from February 16 to March 15 (except for weekends), 9:00-16:00. The consultation will be provided individually. *Please refer to the Tsuchiura Taxation Office for Income Tax returns that require further consultation. *It is the same tax consultation as in the past years. However, note that the following are some of the changes.

- You will receive a colored card after briefly discussing about the content near the south entrance of the City Hall.
- After receiving the colored card, proceed to the entrance of Declaration Consultation Venue on the 2nd floor and exchange this card with another card of the same color.
- This card will have a number which will show the order of consultation.

*Please park your vehicles at the Designated Tax Consultation parking area located on the west side of the City Hall and enter from the South entrance.

The following tax consultation will be held from year 2012 February 1st:

1. Municipal Tax Division (Tel: 883-1111)

Municipal and Prefectural Tax Consultation

- February 1-15** (except on weekends and holidays) between 9:00-16:00 (except 12:00-13:00). Tax Consultation venue, City Hall 2F. **Consultation methods:** individual interview, computer input.

Temporary Office for Tax Consultation

Income Tax Return Consultation

- February 1-3** Meeting room, Kukizaki Community Center, 2F.
- February 13-14** Meeting room, Civic Hall Tsukubane, 2F.

Reception time: 9:00-9:30 for morning session and 13:00-13:30 for afternoon session.

Consultation methods: orientation, fill out forms.

City and Prefectural Tax Declaration Consultation

- February 6-8:** Meeting room, Kukizaki Community Center 2F.
- February 7-10** Meeting room, Civic Hall Tsukubane 2F.

Reception time is between 9:00-16:00 (except 12:00-13:00).

Consultation methods: individual interview, hand written preparation. *Please understand that all declaration forms will be hand written and may take time. *income tax generated during the consultation cannot be paid on the spot.

Hitokoto Nihongo

In this corner we post daily life Japanese vocabulary and phrases. Let's start to master Japanese from today!

The word for January is Zeikin (税金) which means *taxes*. It may be difficult, but it is useful for daily life. Let's learn it! In Japan there are Syotokuzei (所得税) - income tax and Juminzei (住民税) - residents' tax.

Syotokuzei (所得税) Income Tax

An income tax is paid on income, earned from January 1st to December 31st. Everybody, who lives in Japan, must pay an income tax, disregard to nationality. Usually, income tax is paid from monthly salary and extra wages.

Juminzei (住民税) Residents' Tax

This is a tax that combines municipal taxes imposed by the city and the prefectural tax, imposed by the prefecture. For January 1st, a registered citizen will receive a tax notice in

Preparation of Income Tax Returns via computer

- February 1– March 15** (except on weekends and holidays) at Training Room 1, City Hall 2F.
- Reception time:** 9:00-16:00 (*except 12:00-13:00 between February 1-15).

Fill in a form from homepage of National Tax Agency.

*You will prepare the Tax Returns form by computer.

*February 1-15 is only for filing Income Tax Returns.

2. Tsuchiura Taxation Office(Tel:822-1100)

Individual consultation on Home Loans Special Deduction, Casualty Loss Deduction for Great East Japan Earthquake and Income Tax Returns Orientation

- January 31- February 3**, 10:00 - 15:00, Iias Hall, 2F.

*They will show you how to make the declaration form by yourself if you are applying for a new Home Loans Special Deductions.

3. Public Tax Accountants Association

(Tel:824-5055)

The Public Tax Accountants Association Tsuchiura Branch provides free consultation on Income Tax Returns:

February 6-24 (except on weekends) at the Training Room 1, City Hall 2F. **Reception time:** Morning session 9:15-11:00; Afternoon session - 13:00-15:00.

* You will fill in the form via computer.

* Please take advantage of this service if you are receiving a salary or a pension, and are applying for Income Tax Returns.

If any of the family member in a household subscribing to the National Health Insurance fails to declare taxes:

- The National Health Insurance Tax will not be accurately calculated.
- If total income of the household is less than a standard limit, low income tax relief measures apply for the National Health Insurance Tax. However, if a member of the household fails to declare taxes, the exact total income of the household cannot be verified to be under the standard limit, hence the tax relief measure will not be applied.
- Regardless of the actual income, it is assumed that the household is a general taxable income household, thus high medical expenses during hospitalization are to be paid at your own expense.

June for the income declared in the previous year from January 1st to December 31st, e.g. if you are not in Japan from January 2, you must still pay the tax for the previous year. Even if you do not have income or you are not in the country this year, you must pay the previous year's tax.

Kakuteishinkoku (確定申告) Tax Return Declaration

In order to pay income tax for the whole year, tax return declaration is performed to declare all income earned in the year. As a rule, people, who do Nemmatsuchousei 年末調整 (the year-end tax adjustment) at work place, do not need to make a declaration.

Shi-Ken minzeishinkoku 市・県民税申告(住民税申告) Declaration of Residence Tax

On May 1, residents must submit a declaration of residence tax. However, people, who made tax return declaration do not need to submit this.

English Bulletin
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TSUKUBA CITY HALL
Globalization and
Culture Division

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HP: http://www.city.tsukuba.ibaraki.jp/ Editors: Prakash Ronit, Yeow Li Sa

Happy New Year!

Dear Tsukuba Citizens, we wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year! Last year the Great Tohoku Earthquake occurred and Tsukuba city has suffered damages. We will continue to put all our efforts into solving the problem of radiation and coping with the damages caused by harmful rumours.

The Child Raising Support Centre, which opened last year, is visited by many children and their parents every day as a place to socialize and meet new people. We intend to improve the perinatal care system and create environmental for raising children the city, where you can raise children efficiently and with fun.

This spring an integrated primary and secondary school "Kasuga Gakuen" is due to be opened. Furthermore, we will pursue the integrated educational system in all primary and secondary schools. Our goal is to improve schooling in the city and to provide the best education in Japan.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of Tsukuba City. In addition, Tsukuba will celebrate the 50th anniversary since the cabinet approval to build Tsukuba Science City. We are planning to cooperate with the university, research institutes, private companies and different organizations on a theme of "A Steady Look at Tsukuba, A Steady Look at the World and Pioneer into the future". Our aim is to improve the standards of living for all Tsukuba Citizens by addressing issues including the declining birthrate and the aging population, environment, security and safety and education.

We will make all efforts in dealing with such issues as aging population and "Smart Garden City", the building of a low carbon society. We would like to ask for your help and cooperation on these challenges.

We wish all of you a Happy New Year, full of health and prosperity!

Ichihara Kenichi, Mayor of Tsukuba City.

Q&A regarding Radiation

Here are the answers to some frequently asked questions regarding Radiation.

Q1. Where is the "mini hotspot" usually located?

Areas under the water spout and places which hold rain water are most likely to have high level of radiation. If you avoid remaining near these "mini hotspots" for a long period of time, the amount of radiation exposure will not have negative effects on your health. If you have concerns, you can decontaminate by removing surface of the soil.

Q2. Is it safe to eat home-grown vegetables?

The results of radiation measurements for vegetables are uploaded on the homepage by Ibaraki Prefecture and neighboring local governments. With exception to the local raw tea leaves being refrained from shipment, all agriculture and livestock products currently available are safe. For further assurance, the level of radiation in home grown crops or vegetables produced within the city can be measured with the city radiation measuring system. Please contact the Agriculture Division for reservation.

Q3. Is it safe for children to touch acorns and fallen leaves when they play outdoors?

It is safe for outdoors activities, but for hygiene purposes, it is encouraged that they do not put those items in their mouths, and to gargle and wash their hands afterwards.

Q4. Are there radioactive substances in water?

The radioactive substances in Kasumigaura Lake, which is the water source of Tsukuba City, is being inspected on a regular basis at the monitoring site in Tsuchiura by the Prefecture. According to the test results, iodine and cesium are both not detected so the water can be used safely. In regards to the underground water, Cesium is strongly absorbed by argilliferous soil, therefore it will not penetrate down to the underground water stream, making it safe to use.

Q5. Is the soil safe?

Because cesium deposited in the soil does not resurface and become airborne easily, it is not detected in atmosphere radioactive substance measurements test. Possibility of radiation exposure by inhaling dust is extremely low. For peace of mind, please gargle and wash your hands after going out.

Contact: Radiation Countermeasure Division

Notice

Deadline for Tax Payment is January 31 (Tuesday)

City and Prefectural Tax (4th phase)
Contact: Municipal Tax Division, Tax Collection Division
National Health Insurance Premium (7th phase)
Contact: Health Insurance and Pension Division

