

2018

Summer



Hookun Sencho

TSUKUBA

English



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June

Takasaki Natural Forest Blueberry Market 2018

This is a morning blueberry market which is a special product of Tsukuba City. It is held from the beginning of June to the middle of August. In addition to berries themselves, you'll also have a chance to taste blueberry ice cream, daifuku, jam, etc. You can also enjoy picking blueberries at the Blueberry Garden.

【Place】 Takasaki Natural Forest (Honobono Square)

【Reference】 Every year, blueberry picking is on first come first served basis.

【Contact】 Farming Forestry Service Section, Agriculture Policy Division

July

Start of Application to Entry for Tsukuba Marathon

Under the theme of "Sciencing of Marathon" and looking at it from various angles, this contest is referred to as "Evolving Marathon". Every year the theme of "Sciencing" is set and addressed. For foreign runners, English language and pictograms are used for information display. Among the runners there are not only those who aim for new records, but also those who have fun by wearing fancy clothes and costumes.

※Details on the date/time/application method etc. are still undecided. Application begins every year in early July (on first come, first served basis).

Tsukuba Media Art Festival 2018

The "Tsukuba Media Art Festival", which will be held for the fourth time this year, aims to disseminate the culture of Tsukuba characterized by "Tsukuba science city". It is an event where you can see, experience and learn about the results of frontier research and a number of interesting ideas. Please feel fully the charm of the combination of science and art.

【Date and Time】 28 July (Saturday) – 5 August (Sunday)

【Place】 Ibaraki Prefecture Tsukuba Art Museum

Open Hours: 9:00 – 17:00 ※On the first day it will open at 11:00, on the last day will close at 13:00

Last entry: 30 minutes before closing ※Closed on Monday

【Fee】 Free

【Contact】 Art and Culture Division

Mt. Tsukuba Tanabata Festival

The Tanabata decoration of Otake will be exhibited in Miyukigahara, spreading in front of "Tsukuba Sancho Station" of Tsukubasan Cable Car. Every year different fun activities are performed, such as lotteries, street vendors, Mochi-making contest, and Nagashi Somen. Let us enjoy the festival at Mt. Tsukuba early in summer.

【Date and Time】 13 July (Friday) – 16 July (Monday)

【Place】 Mt. Tsukuba Cable Car Sancho Station Square

【Contact】 Tsukuba Tourist Railway Co. Ltd.

Phone 029-866-0611 HP <http://www.mt-tsukuba.com/>

Art Day Camp during Summer Vacation

Any thing you want can be used as a model for your picture! The completed works will be exhibited at the Tsukuba Art Museum at a later date.

【Date and Time】 21 July (Saturday), 22 July (Sunday)

Morning: 9:30 – 12:00 (Reception starts at 9:00)

Afternoon: 12:50 – 15:20 (Reception starts at 12:30)

【Place】 University of Tsukuba, Physical Education/Art Area, 5 C Building, Large Plaster Room

【Targets】 Elementary, Junior High and High School Students. 100 students each day (first come first served basis)

【Participation Fee】 Free of charge

【Application】 5 June (Tuesday) 9:00 – 8 July (Sunday) 17:00

Apply by phone to Tsukuba Culture Promotion Foundation

【Contact】 Tsukuba Culture Promotion Foundation

Phone 029-856-7007

Bon-odori Dance in Tsukuba

This is an event of the volleyball team "Tsukuba United Sun GAIA" for exchange between the players and citizens. It will be held in mid-July. A volleyball experience booth will be set during the day and Bon-odori Dance will be held at night. It is a precious event to experience Japanese traditional Bon-odori Dance. Feel free to join even if it is your first Bon-odori Dance!

【Place】 Days Town Plane Parking Lot (1-9-2 Takezono, Tsukuba)

【Contact】 "Bon-odori Dance at Tsukuba of the World 2018" Executive Committee Phone 029-860-5000

Survey on Living Environment and Support for Foreign Researchers

With the cooperation of Tsukuba City, Tsukuba Science City Network is conducting a survey on living environment and support for foreign researchers including engineers and students in research field.

【Period】 1 June - 31 July Go to <http://www.tsukuba-network.jp/foreigner-promote/> or scan this QR code to access. →



Tsukuba Dr. Chibikko 2018

It is the 20th anniversary of this event this year! You will be able to receive a Tsukuba Dr. Chibikko passport at 11 locations in the city and observe designated tour facilities (39 facilities in total), while doing the stamp rally. Depending on the number of stamps collected, Doctor's Certificate will be given. There will be a one-day pass for route bus called Science Tour Bus, that goes around the research facilities of Tsukuba City during the days of the event (The bus fare is not free).

【Date and Time】 21 July (Saturday) – 31 August (Friday)

【Targets】 Elementary and Junior High School Students

【Participation Fee】 Free ※Guardians can also join the tour, but need to pay a fee at some facilities.

About Doctor's Certificates

Type	Number of Stamps	Gifts
Dr. Chibikko	5 - 9	Certificate
Excellent Dr. Chibikko	10 - 17	Certificate, Souvenirs
The Best Dr. Chibikko	18 or more and write impression in about 400 characters	Certificate, Souvenirs

※Only one stamp per facility is valid. (Even if you visit the same facility on a different day, only one tour stamp of the same facility will be valid.)

※If the number of characters in your impression is insufficient or the impression is not written, you will receive not "The Best Dr. Chibikko" but "Excellent Dr. Chibikko".

【Contact】 Educational Guidance Division

August

Mt. Tsukuba Gama Festival

On the "Mountain Day" a festival will be held for religious service of Gama as well as for business prosperity at Mt. Tsukuba. As one of the entertainments, "Mt. Tsukuba Gama Race" will be held, where the participants will wear a frog costume and will rush up Monzen Dori onto Mt. Tsukuba.

【Date and Time】 11 August (Saturday) (planned)

【Place】 Mt. Tsukuba

【Reference】 Race participants are required to apply in advance. Every year the application starts at the beginning of July on first come first served basis.

【Contact】 Tsukuba Tourism Convention Association
Phone 029-869-8333 HP <http://www.ttca.jp/>

Hojo Night Market in Summer

This is a Night Market held in Edo period's historic cityscape. Here you can enjoy Japanese-style summer festival scenery of street stalls in shopping streets and Japanese drum performances.

※Details on the date etc. are still undecided. More details will be posted on the tourism portal site (<http://www.tsukuba-hojo.jp/index.php>) of Hojo, Tsukuba City.

【Contact】 Hojo Town Development Promotion Association
Phone 080-6788-0693

Tsukuba Festival 2018

This is a festival where you can get the feeling of a "Home Town" through combination of history, science, and various cultures. Here you can enjoy stage events and multiple stores where you can taste local cuisines from around the world. The highlight of the Festival is a parade of the biggest Mikoshi in Japan and a big Nebuta from Aomori, which will pass through Tsuchiura Gakuen Line.

【Date and Time】 25 August (Saturday) 12:00 – 21:00

26 August (Sunday) 10:00 – 21:00

【Place】 Tsukuba Station Area, Tsukuba Center Square, Central Park, Oshimizu Park, Takezono Park

※The parade takes place between Nishi Odori and Higashi Odori on the Tsuchiura Gakuen Line

【Contact】 Tsukuba Festival Convention Headquarters (Tourism Promotion Division)

Tsukuba Festival 2018 Official Site
<http://www.matsuri-tsukuba.com/>



Tsukuba World Futsal 2018

Would you like to have a cultural exchange over a match of Futsal? Spectators can also enjoy various side events and world restaurants. Application will start from August. Please feel free to come and join us with your family and friends!

【Date and Time】 27 October (Saturday)

【Place】 Kashima Antlers Tsukuba Academy Center (51-1 Midorinocho)

【Targets】 Elementary School and Junior High School Students

【Contact】 Tsukuba World Futsal Executive Committee (International Exchange Office)

City Tax Deadlines

Please pay taxes before the deadline. If it is difficult to pay taxes in time, please consult before the deadline.

2 July (Monday): City/Prefectural Tax (Full/1st Term)

31 July (Tuesday): Fixed Asset Tax/City Planning Tax (2nd Term), National Health Insurance Tax (Full/1st Term)

31 August (Friday): City/Prefectural Tax (2nd Term), National Health Insurance Tax (2nd Term)

※City/Prefectural Tax is a tax calculated based on your income during the previous year and to be paid to your municipality as of 1 January of every year. It is different from Income Tax.

※Fixed Asset Tax is a tax paid by those who own land, houses, depreciable assets (collectively referred to as "Fixed Assets") according to the fixed asset price on 1 January of every year.

※City Planning Tax is a tax that covers expenses required for city planning projects or land readjustment projects.

【Contact】 Tax Collection Division

Regular Payments of Child Allowance in June/Current Status Notification 2018

"Current Status Notification 2018" is to confirm whether the requirements to continue receiving child allowance after June are met. The document for the Notification will be sent to the recipients of child allowance in mid-June. Please submit it along with other necessary documents. Sending by mail is also accepted.

◆Reception Period and Place

Period: 14 June (Thursday) – 22 June (Friday) 9:00 – 17:00
 Place: Second floor of the Main Office Disaster Prevention Conference Room 3

※After the Reception Period and on 16 June (Saturday), 23 June (Saturday), and 30 June (Sunday) the reception will be held at the Childcare Policy Division on the first floor.

◆**Confirmation of your Income**

We will check your and your spouse's income for the year 2017 when you will report on your current status. In case your income can't be confirmed, we may ask you to take the procedure for declaring your income. Those who fall under the following categories, please submit your Child Allowance Income Certificate (original) for the year 2018. The certificate can be obtained at the Municipal Tax Division.

Those who need to submit the Income Certificate	What needs to be stated in the Income Certificate
◎Recipients and their spouses who do not have resident registration in Tsukuba City as of 1 January, 2018 ※If it is possible to confirm from your income certificate that recipient's spouse is also his dependent, spouse's income certificate is not needed. ◎Those who have resident registration in Tsukuba City and are taxed in other municipalities	Income for 2017 Dependent relative Deductible amount

◆**When the Child Lives in Another Municipality**

Please submit the Certificate of Residence of the child. (Copy of the Certificate of Residence with description of all household members/relationships/registered domicile)

◆**Other Required Documents**

For other necessary documents besides Income Certificate and Certificate of Residence, please refer to the notice enclosed together with the Current Status Notification.

【Contact】Childcare Policy Division

Start of Subsidies for Maternal Health Examination Expenses

In order to check the health condition of heart and body of mothers shortly after childbirth, we will subsidize part of the expenses for Maternal Health Examination received at medical institutions.

【Targets】Mothers who gave birth after 1 April, 2018

【Time and Number of Health Examinations】2 weeks and 1 month after childbirth, 2 times in total.

※The expiration date of the Health Examination Form is after 8 weeks

【Content of Examination】Weight/blood pressure, urinalysis, consultation, heart health check etc.

【Place】Prefectural medical institutions or maternity homes that conduct Maternal Health Examination

※Because there are medical institutions that do not conduct 2 week Maternal Health Examination, please confirm with your medical institution in advance.

【Health Examination Form】It is distributed at Health Promotion Division or at Oho, Yatabe, and Sakura Health Centers. Those who have received Mother and Child Health

Handbook before 31 March, 2018, please get it before Health Examination. Please bring your Mother and Child Health Handbook and Health Service Registration Form (Baby's Visit Card) when taking the procedure. For those who receive Mother and Child Health Handbook after 1 April, 2018, it is being handed over at the same time as the Handbook.

【Subsidy Amount】Up to 5000 yen per examination

※Any excess amount should be paid by yourself.

【Contact】Health Promotion Division

Renewal of Marufuku for single parents

Maruku Certificate for single parents is renewed on 1 July of every year. Regarding the renewal, procedures such as application are generally not needed. If there is no information on the income for the year required for the renewal due to moving in after 1 January, 2018 or not declaring your income for last year, it will be necessary to submit your tax certificate or your final tax return form (or residence tax return form) obtained from the Residence Tax Municipality. We will send you a certificate with the new validity period towards the end of the expiration month of the current validity period.

【Contact】Medical Welfare and Pension Division

Revision of National Health Insurance Tax Rate

From April 2018 the insurance tax rate has been revised, because the tax income of the city was not sufficient enough to pay to Ibaraki prefecture for its share of the joint National Health Insurance business. In April 2018, prefecture has become an insurer together with municipality.

New Tax Rate Table

Classification of the Insurance Tax	For Medical Services	Medical Insurance for Age 75+	For Nursing Care
Targets	All Subscribers	All Subscribers	Ages 40 to 65
Income Based Amount [total income × the rate]	7.36% (+0.36%)	2.42% (+0.82%)	1.93% (+0.38%)
Per Capita Amount [tax per capita × numbers of subscribers]	22,400 yen (-6,400 yen)	8,000 yen (+800 yen)	12,800 yen (-1,000 yen)
Per Household Amount [tax amount per household]	20,500 yen (-4,500 yen)	6,000 yen (0 yen)	none (-)

The price in () is the comparison with old taxes.

【Contact】National Health Insurance Division

Start of Registration of Committee Member Candidates by Random Sampling

Tsukuba City has been inviting applications open to the public for the members of various committees to reflect opinions of the citizens in the city's administration.

In order to further expand opportunities for the participation of citizens, registration of committee member candidates by

random sampling starts from April 2018. If you receive a letter regarding "Committee Member Candidates Registration by Random Sampling" and if you agree to be included in the "Committee Member Candidates List", fill out the enclosed consent form with the necessary information and send it back.

【Random Sampling Targets】 1000 men and women over the age of 18 living in the city (nationality doesn't matter)

【Time of Sending the Request Letter】 Early in May 2018

The Central Library has become more Accessible!

The service of the Central Library has expanded since April. Closing time on Saturday and Sunday has become 19:00. In addition, in order to make it easier for people living far away from the Central Library, it will be possible to order books from the Central Library at the community center libraries in Yatabe, Tsukuba, Onogawa, and Kukizaki. It is also possible to order books online for pick up at all the libraries.

There are also many other changes. For more information, please take a look at the new library guide or the Central Library website.

The library will be closed from 4 June (Monday) to 8 June (Friday) due to rearrangements in the special hall.

Removal of Nests of Hornets

Removal of hornet nests in places such as the premises of houses (excluding apartments, mansions, rental houses etc.), vacant lots, unoccupied houses etc., along the way children usually pass through is under way by entrusting it to the specialist contractors. The cost of the removal will be borne basically by the city, however, we will still ask you for a spray for exterminating hornets and your personal presence at the sites. Depending on the location of the nest, you might also be requested to pay the full amount. Please contact us for details. We also lend protective gear from hornets for free. Due to limited number of the gears, they will be made available only through reservation by phone in advance. There are conditions for lending the gear, so please contact us for more information.

【Contact】 Swift Dispatch Office

Changes in the Publication Dates of Multilingual Newsletter and Addition of Languages

The publication dates of Multilingual Newsletter is going to change. It will be issued 4 times a year, on the 1st of every month of March, June, September, and December (if the day is a holiday, then on the first weekday). Vietnamese and Indonesian languages are added to the previous six languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Thai, Portuguese, and Spanish).

Please Make Good Use of Tsukuba City Homepage

Korean website was newly created on the Tsukuba City Homepage! In addition to everyday information, news and event information are being updated from time to time. There are also introduction articles of Tsukuba City as seen from the perspective of the international exchange students who are in

charge of translation of this newsletter. In addition to Korean, it is also available in English, Chinese, and simple Japanese. Please make good use of it for the convenience of daily life.

Multilingual Mobile Application for Life Guide in Japan

Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR) is providing a free iOS/Android mobile application "Japan Life Guide" which contains useful information for foreigners living in Japan in 14 languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Thai, German, French, Russian, Japanese (with phonetic characters), and simple Japanese). Please feel free to use it as a useful guide for daily life and in times of a disaster.

【Contact】 Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR)

Multicultural Symbiosis Division, Multicultural Symbiosis Department Phone 03-5213-1725

E-mail tabunka@clair.or.jp HP <http://www.clair.or.jp>

Consultation Room for Foreigners in Tsukuba City on every Wednesday

Please do not hesitate to ask us about any trouble you have or what you do not understand while living in Japan. You can also consult with us about your status of residence, employment, marriage etc. Everything will be kept confidential.

【Date and Time】 Every Wednesday 10:00 – 13:00

※The time has changed since April 2018! Please pay notice!

【Languages】 English, Chinese, simple Japanese

【Consultation Method】 Face to face consultation or by calling 029-868-7700

【Fee】 Free

【Contact】 Tsukuba International Association

1-10-1 Azuma Tsukuba 305-0031 (inside Tsukuba Innovation Plaza) Phone 029-869-7675

Medical Treatment in native language.

Dispatch of Medical Interpreter Volunteers

Have you ever experienced problems in conversation with the doctor at hospital? The Tsukuba International Association dispatches medical interpreter volunteers free of charge so that people can be relieved while being treated at hospitals. Please check the leaflet PDF file on the Medical Interpreter Guide Page on the Tsukuba International Association website (<https://www.inter.or.jp/iryo-tsuyaku.htm>).

【Available Hospitals】 Hospitals and clinics around Tsukuba

【Content for Translation】 Reception, examination, diagnosis, surgery, consent form, medical certificate etc.

【Available Languages】 English, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese

【Fee】 Free

【Application Method】 Ask the staff at the hospital. If the staff is not aware about the volunteers, please contact Tsukuba International Association.

【Contact】 Tsukuba International Association

1-10-1 Azuma Tsukuba 305-0031 (inside Tsukuba Innovation Plaza) Phone 029-869-7675