



MITAKA CITY NEWS



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MITAKA CITY NEWS providing business and event information of Mitaka city is published on 1st of every month.

Mitaka's Bicycle Parking Lot Management System will change on April 1, 2012, starting from Mitaka station area

New bicycle parking lot management system will be introduced in April 2012, starting from Mitaka station area (new system is planned to be implemented in bicycle parking lots around Mitakadai Station, Inokashira-koen Station, and Tsutsujigaoka Station from April 2013). Please cooperate with the City's effort in making an easy-to-understand, fair, and convenient bicycle parking lot.

What kinds of changes will be made to bicycle parking lot for shoppers and registered bicycle parking lot around Mitaka Station? (Q&A)

Q: What kinds of changes will be made to bicycle parking lot for shoppers and registered bicycle parking lot?

A: Registered bicycle parking lot will be changed to fixed-term pay bicycle parking lot, and the bicycle parking lot for shoppers will be changed to temporary pay bicycle parking lot.

Q: Can fixed-term bicycle parking lot be used continuously?

A: The length of the registration for registered bicycle parking lot so far was one year and had to be renewed after a year, and there was no guarantee that you could use it continuously if the applicants exceeded the limit under the previous registered bicycle parking lot system. Under the new system, if you renew the registration, you can continue to use the same bicycle parking lot.

Q: What do you have to do to renew registration?

A: You can renew the registration at the machine placed in each parking lot. You will be able to choose the renewal term from one month, three months, and six months.

Q: How many hours can we park at temporary bicycle parking lot?

A: Maximum hours you could park were three hours at bicycle parking lot for shoppers. Under the new system, you can park the bicycle longer by paying extra fee after one to four hours of free parking.

Q: How will the fee change?

A: For the fixed-term bicycle parking lot, fee is planned to be 1,000 yen to 3,000 yen per month. For the temporary bicycle parking lot, fee is planned to be 150 yen a day/single use or 100 yen per four to twenty-four hours.

More details will be provided in the future issues and the City's website in Japanese regarding the type, name, and use of registered and temporary bicycle parking lot after the change.

Inquiries: Road and City Traffic Management Section Ext. 2883

New Year's Traditional "Dezome-shiki", a Parade by Mitaka City Fire Volunteers

The New Year's first fire drill, known as "Dezome-shiki," will be carried out by Mitaka City Fire Volunteers and fire station staff.

Date and Time: January 8 (Sun.), from 10:00 a.m.

Venue: Dai-ichi Junior High School school-yard

Program: Parades with fire volunteers and fire engines, performances of fire volunteer's equipment in operation, and water-discharge performances given in collaboration with Mitaka Fire Station and Mitaka City Local Disaster Prevention Organizations.

*In the case of bad weather or when the schoolyard is unusable, the event will be limited to a ceremony in the school gymnasium.

Inquiries: Disaster Preparedness Section Ext. 2283



Expiration Date of "Mitaka Murasaki Gift Certificate" is January 22 (Sun.)!

Mitaka Murasaki Gift Certificates are sold out. Thank you for purchasing them.

The expiration date of the city-wide gift certificate, "Mitaka Murasaki Gift Certificate" is January 22 (Sun.). You can use the gift certificates at more than 700 places where the posters are displayed, such as retail stores, supermarkets, convenience stores, taxis and others. After the expiration date, the gift certificates will be invalid. Don't leave it too late!

Inquiries: Mitaka City Merchants' Association/Mitaka Commerce and Industry Association Tel. 0422-49-3111

Congratulations on Becoming Adults - "Celebrating the Coming of Age of Mitaka Citizens"

A celebration for those turning twenty in 2012 and thereby becoming adults under Japanese law will be held. Every year, over 800 "New Adults" gather and make merry. Don't miss this chance to experience a performance of instruments, a lottery, and much more with Mitaka's New Adults!

Eligibility: Those who were born between April 2, 1991 and April 1, 1992.

(Persons born between these dates will be sent an invitation for the event by the middle of December)

Date and Time: January 9 (national holiday), 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. (doors open at 12:30 p.m.)

Venues: Mitaka City Arts Center

Inquiries: Children and Youth Section Ext. 2713

*Please refrain from coming by car.



Exemption for Those with Difficulties Making the National Pension Payment

Foreigners who are registered in National Pension Insurance and experiencing financial difficulties may be exempted from paying the full amount or part of your National Pension Insurance Premium. If you are a student or in your 20's, you may be eligible for 10 years' grace. Income assessment is required for the application. Please inquire before proceeding with your application.

Application: Civil Affairs Section (No.3 window at the first floor of City Hall)

Inquiries: Civil Affairs Section Ext. 2394

Musashino Pension Service Office Tel: 0422-56-1411

MISHOP International Exchange Ski Tour 2012

We are accepting applications for the International Exchange Ski Tour. Why don't you meet with people from all over the world and enjoy skiing together?

Date and Time: February 18 (Sat.) – 19 (Sun.) 1 night, 2 days

Venue: Chateraise Ski Resort Yatsugatake

Departure and Return:

Depart 7:15 a.m., Sat., Feb. 18, and return around 6:30 p.m., Sun., Feb. 19, at the south side of Mitaka Sangyo Plaza

Accommodation: Kawakamigo Nature Village (Mitaka Municipal Resort Facility, Kawakami-mura, Minami Saku-gun, Nagano)

Transportation: Sightseeing bus used for the roundtrip

Capacity:

50 people (25 foreign residents and 25 MISHOP Japanese members)

*Attendees will be selected by lottery if number of applicants exceeds capacity. Minimum participants: 25 people

*Elementary school students or younger must be accompanied by their parents, and ski with them.

Fee:

Adults 10,000 yen

Children (Junior high school students or younger) 7,500 yen

(Including transportation/accommodation/exchange party fee/insurance, etc.)

*Extra fee for lift tickets, renting ski equipment, and ski suits.

One-day lift ticket: 2,000 yen

Rental ski set (One day): Adults 2,500 yen, Children (Junior high school students or younger) 1,500 yen

Rental ski suits (One day): Adults 2,500 yen, Children (Junior high school students or younger) 1,500 yen

Application and Inquiries:

Apply at the MISHOP office or by phone (0422-43-7812), on the website (<http://www.mishop.ne.jp/>) with 1) address, 2) your name, 3) age, 4) sex, 5) nationality, 6) if you are MISHOP member or not, 7) phone number (cell phone number), 8) email address, 9) lift ticket, and 10) whether or not you need to rent skis and/or a ski suit

Application period: January 4 (Wed.) – 14 (Sat.), 2012

Inquires: MISHOP

*Please mention if you'd like to participate as a volunteer staff member.

*Please mark the message with "ski tour" in the subject line when sending the application by email, and call the MISHOP office afterward.

*Those with dietary restrictions should prepare their own meals.

Accepting Students for a Japanese Class!

MISHOP is accepting students for a Japanese class. Let's study everyday dialogs such as shopping and ordering food at a restaurant. There are volunteer Japanese teachers and small classes!

25 useful situations based on daily life are chosen for the classes and each lesson will focus on one of the situations. You can join the class any time, even in the middle of the course. If you are interested in the classes, feel free to contact MISHOP.

Date and Time: Every Saturday at 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Venue: MISHOP

Register fee: 2,000 yen

Eligibility: Those who live, work, or go to school in Mitaka City

Texts: MISHOP original text book

Application and Inquiries:

Apply at the MISHOP office, call, or via the homepage

Always Welcomed! Japanese Lounge

Let's Chat in Japanese!

Our Japanese members and foreign residents are having fun chatting in Japanese at MISHOP. The theme varies every time. We occasionally hold Japanese culture-experience events such as Yukata try-on, tea ceremonies, Cherry Blossom Viewing, and autumnal tints viewing. Feel free to stop by when you have a chance!

Every Tuesday: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Every Friday: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Application: No application necessary, come directly to participate!

Inquiries: MISHOP



Population (As of December 1, 2011)

Population: 176,871 persons

The number of Foreign Registrants: 3,016 persons



Individual Lesson

LLJ·Let's Learn Japanese

Date: Your available day

(once a week, 1 to 2 hours per time)

Eligibility: Foreign nationals who live, study or work in Mitaka or neighboring cities

Context: The lesson will be one to one, and the study material will be your choice

Register Fee: 1,000 yen

Application: Apply at MISHOP office

*LLJ is a volunteer group to support Japanese learning for foreign nationals.

Inquires: Inquiry at the MISHOP office, call, or via the homepage.

Events of Mitaka City Arts Foundation

Ticket center Tel: 0422-47-5122 Business hours 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The center is closed on January 1-4, 11, 18, 24, 31

[www http://mitaka-art.jp/ticket](http://mitaka-art.jp/ticket) (Japanese only)

= A nursery service is available. (Please apply 2 weeks prior to each performance.)

Concert Hall "Kaze"

Hiroko Kouda Soprano Recital

Piano: Ichiro Nodaira

March 1 (Thur.), from 7:15 p.m.

Tickets now on sale / All seats reserved

Members 3,600 yen/ Nonmembers 4,000 yen/

Students 2,000 yen

Program:

Richard Strauss: Allerseelen (Op. 10, No. 8)

Franz Liszt: Liebesträume No.3 "Oh lieb, so lang du lieben kannst!" S.298

Hiroko Kouda, her beautiful voice recognized by prestigious opera house in Europe will perform superb collection of lied with leading composer and pianist in Japan, Ichiro Nodaira.



Hiroko Kouda

Concert Hall "Kaze"

Yukio Yokoyama Piano Recital Series

A Musical Voyage that Connects Chopin to Rakhmaninov

The 2nd Performance

Debussy's 150th Anniversary

Chopin and Debussy -Their Preludes-

March 4 (Sun.), from 3:00 p.m.

Tickets now on sale / All seats reserved

Members 3,600 yen/ Nonmembers 4,000 yen/

Students 2,000 yen

Program:

Chopin: Prelude in C Sharp Minor Op.45, 24 Preludes, Op.28

Debussy: Prelude Book 1

Pieces from various composers related to Chopin, "Poet of the piano", will be performed. The performance will take you on a journey in the world of music.



Yukio Yokoyama
Photo: Katsumi Omura



Information

Information about Mitaka International Society for HOspitality

MISHOP Office

Days: Monday through Saturday (Closed on Sundays and national holidays)

Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Location: Mitaka City Chuo-Dori Town Plaza 4F, 3-30-12, Shimorenjaku

Tel: 0422-43-7812 **Fax:** 0422-43-9966

E-mail: mishop@parkcity.ne.jp

URL: <http://www.mishop.jp/>

Established: November 23, 1989

Information Service for Foreign Residents

Time: Every 2nd Friday each month from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. (the service counter is open until 3:00).
Closed on National Holidays.

Location: Mitaka Municipal Office, 2F Consultation/Information Center

Tel: 0422-44-6600

外国人相談窓口

英語: 毎月第2金曜日
時間: いずれも祝日を除く午後1時~4時 (受付は3時まで)
場所: 市役所2階相談・情報センター
電話: 0422-44-6600