



MITAKA CITY NEWS



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Mitaka City News, providing information on public services, lives and events of Mitaka City, is published on the 1st of every month.

August 15: A Day for Thinking about Peace over the Generations Please Participate in the Mitaka Peace Gathering 2016

Mitaka City holds the Mitaka Peace Gathering every year in August, commemorating it as Peace Emphasis Month.

Along with the Memorial Ceremony for the War Dead and Peace Memorial Ceremony taking place on August 15, various other events including the Peace Exhibition and animated peace film screening will be held. All events are free of charge, and no reservations are required to join in. Why not make use of this opportunity to think about and renew a sense of hope for peace? We hope as many people as possible will attend these events!

◆ August 15 (Mon.): Mitaka Peace Gathering

Location: Mitaka City Public Hall “Hikari”

(1) Memorial Ceremony for the War Dead and Peace Memorial Ceremony

This is a ceremony with hopes for peace, praying for the souls of World War II victims.

Time: 10:15 a.m. to around 12:10 p.m.

Program: Offering of flowers, a memorial service and messages for peace, remembrances by war victims “What We Would Like to Pass Down to Future Generations Now,” choral singing, and a moment of silence

Note: Anyone can dedicate flowers at the “Hikari” lobby until 3:30 p.m.



Mitaka Peace Gathering

(2) Animated Peace Film Screening

Giovanni's Island (in Japanese, animation, 102 minutes)

Time: 1:30 to 3:15 p.m. (The hall will be open from 1:10 p.m.)

◆ Peace Exhibition: Lifestyle during and after World War II (National Showa Memorial Museum Collection)

Date and time: August 8 (Mon.) through 15 (Mon.), 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed on Saturday, Sunday and national holidays)

Location: Mitaka Municipal Office, 1F Civic Hall

Inquiries: Planning Management Section, Ext. 2115; Community Welfare Section, Ext. 2614

■ Are You Familiar with Sengawa Park?

Located in Shinkawa 6-chome and sandwiching the Sengawa River on both sides, Sengawa Park is the largest urban park in the city, covering an area of about 11,000 square meters. Lush with natural greenery, its trees offer shade that shuts out much of the heat, even in summer.

The park also features several monuments related to peace, such as the one modeled after the Peace Monument of Nagasaki, Souvenir d'Anne Frank roses—a symbol of peace—and two plane trees that remained standing after the air raids of World War II.

In addition, a seedling of a Chinese parasol tree—second generation of the tree that survived the Hiroshima atomic bomb—was planted in January of this year, donated by Hiroshima City, with Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui in attendance. These hardy trees are known for giving people hope after they survived the atomic bomb and budded again despite being only 1,300 meters from the epicenter of the blast.

August is a time of year with plenty of opportunities to think about peace. Come visit Sengawa Park to gain a sense of hope for lasting peace.



Sengawa Park Peace Monument and the second-generation bomb-surviving tree

Please Join the Traditional Tanabata Festival

Mitaka Picture Book House in the Astronomical Observatory Forest—which is celebrating its seventh anniversary this year—puts on a Tanabata festival, a Japanese traditional summer event for enjoying the starry sky and making a wish, around the day of Tanabata according to the lunar calendar (August 9 this year). Since stars can rarely be seen on July 7 of the modern calendar due to the rainy season, the festival is held at a more “traditional” time.

Tanabata is said to have originated from the Chinese folktale *The Weaver Girl and the Cowherd* and from the hope of improving the traditional art of weaving, as well as from Japanese folktale *Tanabatsume* (the weaver girl for god). It is said that by writing wishes on colored strips of paper (blue, red, yellow, white and black) and hanging them on a small bamboo tree, wishes come true and penmanship improves.

At this event, you can also write your wish on these strips of paper, decorate a bamboo tree with it, and place it in a bonfire so that your wishes reach the skies. During the day, there will be plays about Tanabata and a live reading of the book *Stars of Asia*, which details traditional legends and folktales about stars from different parts of Asia. At night, there will be a jazz concert, a talk on the summer night sky by a staff member of the National Astronomical Observatory, and the opportunity to observe the starlit sky. (In the case of rain, the night program will be canceled.)

Don't miss this opportunity to experience “traditional” Tanabata at this time of year when the Milky Way can be seen beautifully.

Date and time: August 7 (Sun.), 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. (regular hours: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

Location: The facility (inside the National Astronomical Observatory, 2-21-3 Osawa)

Application: Come to the venue directly.

Inquiries: Please contact the facility, **Tel:** 0422-39-3401, **URL:** <http://www.city.mitaka.tokyo.jp/ehon/>



The bonfire at last year's Tanabata Festival

Summer Traditions of Mitaka

The 49th Mitaka Awa-Odori

About thirty groups from both inside and outside the city will perform spectacular *awa-odori* dances. Come join the fun!

Dates and time: August 20 (Sat.) and 21 (Sun.), 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Location: Mitaka Station south exit shopping street (along Chuo-dori Avenue)

◇ The Official Mitaka Awa-Odori Website—Now Updated

The website now features many photographs of past Mitaka Awa-Odori, which show what a lively event it was. The site also provides the schedule for the day of the event and the latest updates.

Inquiries: Mitaka Awa-Odori Promotion Association (inside the Mitaka Commerce and Industry Association), **Tel:** 0422-49-3111, **URL:** <http://awaodori.mitaka.ne.jp/>, Mitaka City Livelihood and Economy Section, Ext. 2544



Tobi-iri Ren (open participation) at last year's Mitaka Awa-Odori

Ghibli Museum, Mitaka Renewal! Complimentary Tickets by Lottery for 1,200 Groups of Residents from Mitaka City and Neighboring Cities

Every year Mitaka City offers citizens of Mitaka and neighboring cities tickets for the Ghibli Museum by lottery so that as many people as possible can enjoy the museum. Now that the maintenance and upgrading work are complete, the museum is holding a new special exhibition called "All Aboard! The Cat Bus to the Ghibli Forest."

◇ Mitaka Citizen Day: October 1 (Sat.)

Eligibility: Mitaka City residents; 600 groups will be chosen.

◇ Mitaka Citizen and Neighboring Citizen Day: October 2 (Sun.)

Eligibility: Residents of Mitaka City and neighboring cities (Musashino City, Koganei City, Nishitokyo City, Chofu City, or Fuchu City); 600 groups will be chosen.

◇ **Application:** On a postcard, write, without omission, the group representative's name (with *furigana*), age, address, postal code, and telephone number; the names and ages of all people in the party; the desired date (only October 2 for residents of neighboring cities); and the desired time of admission (choose from 10:00 a.m., noon, 2:00 p.m., or 4:00 p.m.), and send the postcard to the Community and Culture Section 181-8555 no later than August 17 (Wed.) (must be received by this date).

Notes:

1. Up to four people per party (children three years of age or younger are not counted in the total). It is also possible to apply for just one person.
2. Multiple and/or incomplete applications are not valid. Complimentary tickets will be mailed in mid-September to those who are selected. Confirmation of whether you were selected cannot be made over the telephone. If you would like to know the results of the lottery, please apply with a return postage-paid postcard.

Inquiries: Community and Culture Section, Ext. 2515

Recruiting Teams for the 25th Mitaka Citizens Ekiden Relay!

◇ Date, time and course

November 20 (Sun.), starts at 7:30 a.m. (will be held even in light rain).
The course circles the City (four sections) for a total of 12.2 kilometers.

◇ Eligibility/team members

Must live, work, or go to school in the City, and be of junior high school age or older. Each team must have a director, four athletes, and up to four substitutes.

◇ Divisions/number of teams

- (1) Men's (high school age or older; includes teams with both males and females): 130 teams
- (2) Women's (high school age or older): 30 teams
- (3) Senior (50 years of age or older as of the day of the event): 10 teams
- (4) Junior high school (boys' and girls' divisions): 30 teams

Fee: ¥5,000 per team (free of charge for junior high school division)

Application: Send a return postcard by **August 26 (Fri.) (must be received by this date)** with your name, address, telephone number, names of your team and all members—the director, athletes, and substitutes—and division category to the Sports Promotion Section 181-8505. If the number of applications exceeds capacity, a lottery will be held.

Note: The application guideline is available at the Sports Promotion Section (Education Center 2F), Dai-ni Gymnasium and the Mitaka City Amateur Sports Association (at Dai-ichi Gymnasium). You can also obtain the guideline, the course, and the application form via the City website.

Inquiries: Sports Promotion Section, Ext. 3325

Please Sort and Dispose of Your Garbage Properly

To ensure safe and efficient recycling, your cooperation sorting garbage properly would be deeply appreciated.

◇ Dispose of Items Containing Mercury—such as Batteries, Thermometers and Fluorescent Lights—as "Hazardous Garbage"

There have been incidents where items containing mercury were disposed with burnable garbage, raising the mercury levels of the exhaust gas inside incinerating facilities and causing the incinerator to stop. Button-type batteries included with toys are also considered hazardous garbage.

◇ Always Completely Empty Spray Cans, Gas Cassettes and Gas Lighters Before Disposal

There have been incidents of fires breaking out in collection trucks caused by gas remaining in spray cans as well as fires caused by gas lighters mixed together with plastic items. Please empty items such as spray cans completely (do not pierce a hole) before disposing of them as hazardous garbage.

◇ Please Do Not Double-Bag Plastic Items

Placing items in the collection bag for plastic items in another small bag inside decreases the efficiency of the disposal plant because the machine cannot shred the smaller bag properly.

◆ "How to Take Out Garbage in Mitaka" Brochure (available in four languages)

Mitaka City has published the brochure "How to Take Out Garbage in Mitaka" for foreign residents, describing garbage sorting and disposal procedures in four languages—Japanese with *furigana*, English, Chinese and Korean. Since it is available free at the Civil Affairs Section (Mitaka Municipal Office 1F), municipal offices branches, Mitaka International Society for HOspitality (MISHOP), and other places, please pick up a copy.

Inquiries: Garbage Management Section, Ext. 2533

Please Use Community Center Pools

Our local community center pools are open to the public, so please feel free to use them this summer.

Eligibility: City residents and those who work or go to school in the city

Fee: Elementary and junior high school students: ¥50; High school students and older: ¥200

◆ Shinkawa Nakahara Community Center, Tel: 0422-49-6568

(closed on Mondays and on August 11 [a national holiday])

Date and time: Tuesday through Saturday until September 4 (Sun.): 10:30 a.m. to 12:10 p.m.; 1:10 to 2:50 p.m.; 3:20 to 5:00 p.m.

Sundays until September 4 (Sun.): 10:30 a.m. to 12:10 p.m.; 12:50 to 2:30 p.m.; 3:00 to 4:40 p.m.

(Pool users will be replaced for each session)

◆ Iguchi Community Center, Tel: 0422-32-7141

(closed on Thursdays and August 12 [Fri.])

Date and time: Mondays through Saturdays until August 28 (Sun.): 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Sundays until August 28 (Sun.): 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

(Two hours' maximum use per time period; reception is open until one hour before closing.)

◆ Renjaku Community Center, Tel: 0422-45-5100

(closed on Thursdays and August 12 [Fri.])

Date and time: Mondays through Saturdays until August 31 (Wed.): 11:00 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Sundays until August 31 (Wed.): 10:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

(Two hours' maximum use per time period; reception is open until thirty minutes before closing.)

◆ Mure Community Center, Tel: 0422-49-3441

(center is closed on Tuesdays and on August 11 [a national holiday]; the pool is closed on August 10 [Wed.])

Date and time: Weekdays and Sundays until August 28 (Sun.): 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

(Two hours' maximum usage per time period; reception is open until forty-five minutes before closing.)

◆ Osawa Community Center, Tel: 0422-32-6986

(closed on Tuesdays and on August 11 [a national holiday])

Date and time: Mondays through Saturdays until August 28 (Sun.): noon to 6:00 p.m.

Sundays until August 28 (Sun.): noon to 4:30 p.m.

(Two hours' maximum usage per time period; reception is open until one hour before closing.)

Events of Mitaka City Sports and Culture Foundation

Mitaka City Gallery of Art, ☎ 0422-79-0033

Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (admission until 7:30 p.m.)

HP <http://mitaka.jpn.org/gallery/> (Japanese only)

The Age of Art Photography: Teiko Shiotani Exhibition

Dates: August 20 (Sat.) through October 23 (Sun.)

Closed: Mondays (open on September 19 and October 10), September 20 (Tue.) and October 11 (Tue.)

Admission:

Members: ¥480; adults: ¥600; those sixty-five or older, and high school and university students: ¥300

Note: Free for junior high school students and younger, and those with a handbook for the disabled.



Housewife with Kitchen Utensils, 1934 (printed later); gelatin silver print; 24.0 × 28.6 cm; Tottori Prefecture Museum Collection



Tottori Sand Dunes, 1923; gelatin silver print; 29.8 × 37.5 cm; Tottori Prefecture Museum Collection

Population and Number of Households As of July 1, 2016

Numbers in brackets are changes from previous month.

Number of Registered Residents 184,841 persons (+52)

Number of Households 91,905 households (-28)



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 5:00 p.m.

Location: Mitaka City Chuo-Dori Town Plaza 4F, 3-30-12, Shimorenjaku 181-0013

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

E-mail: mishop@mishop.jp

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

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