

PUBLIC RELATIONS MAGAZINE

DATE

伊達

ENGLISH
DIGEST

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The following are translations of news articles found in the Japanese edition.

Tile Roof Replacement Expenses Partially Subsidized

In order to reduce the damage caused by earthquakes and strong wind, Date City will partially subsidize owners of houses, etc., within the city for necessary expenses incurred during the replacement of tile roofs.

[Eligibility] Homes which have incurred roof damage due to the 2022 Fukushima Offshore Earthquake, with an assessed damage level of Portional Damage or greater on the Disaster Certificate

[Subsidy Details] 23% of eligible expenses will be reimbursed (up to ¥552,000)

※ The eligible expense is the smallest of the monetary amounts ① ~ ③ below:

① Sales estimate

② An amount that equals ¥24,000 multiplied by the area of the roof in square meters (㎡)

③ ¥2,400,000

[Subsidy Requirements] Either of the below conditions ① or ② must be fulfilled; the construction must be completed within the current fiscal year; and a Report of Successful Completion must be submitted, comprising of the necessary documents.

① The entirety of a tile roof is repaired, conforming to national standards

② A tile roof is replaced with a metal roof, etc.

[Number of Subsidies] Subsidies will be granted to approximately 20 households

※ In case the applicant limit is exceeded, a drawing is planned to be held at 10 AM on Friday, October 7th

[Application Period] Accepted from Thursday, September 1st to Thursday, September 22nd, on weekdays between 8:30 AM and 5 PM.

[Site of Application Form Distribution & Reception] Construction and Housing Department's Facility Maintenance Section (on the 2nd floor of City Hall's Central Building)

[Documents Needed for Application]

● Subsidy Application Form (available for download from the City's homepage)

● Disaster Certificate (copy)

● Photographs showing extent of damage to the roof tiles (taken prior to repair work)

● A diagram which confirms the area of the roof

[Important Note] When utilizing the subsidies for *Temporary Home Repairs* or *Support for Repairing Homes with Portional Damage*, repairs must be conducted on locations other than the roof.

[Contact] Construction and Housing Department's Facility Maintenance Section ☎ 024-573-5064

Check it out!

Details and application form downloads are here



The 2023 Date City Gathering of 20-Year-Olds to Be Held

The 2023 Coming-of-Age Ceremony will be renamed the "Date City Gathering of 20-Year Olds", and will be held at one location in the city.

[Date & Time] Sunday, January 8th, 2023 10:30 AM ~ (registration begins at 9:30 AM)

[Location] Date City's Hobara Gymnasium

[Eligible Participants] Date City residents born between April 2nd, 2002 and April 1st, 2003

※ Invitations will be sent to eligible participants in November

[Residents Outside of City] Those who wish to participate but live outside the city are asked to please apply through the application form to the below.

[Additional Information] Even after the age of adulthood has been lowered to 18, Date City will hold the event for 20-year-olds.

[Contact] Lifelong Learning Department's Lifelong Learning and Sports Section ☎ 024-573-5709

Check it out!

Application for those living outside of the city



Beginning of Reservation Acceptance for City Resident Health Exams (Hobara Site)

Area	Exam Date	Eligible Area	Telephone Reservation Period	Exam Site
Hobara Area	Oct. 2 nd (Sun.)	All Districts	Sept. 7 th (Wed.) ~ Sept. 13 th (Tue.)	Hobara Civic Center
	Oct. 4 th (Tue.)	Hobara District (excluding sections 1 & 2 of Tetsumoto, Higashi-Nekogawa, Niroku, Kashiwa-machi, Kashiwa-higashi, and Hachimandai)		
	Oct. 5 th (Wed.)			
	Oct. 6 th (Thu.)			
	Oct. 7 th (Fri.)		Sept. 15 th (Thu.) ~ Sept. 21 st (Wed.)	
	Oct. 11 th (Tue.)	Kamihobara District, as well as sections 1 & 2 of Tetsumoto, Higashi-Nekogawa, Niroku, Kashiwa-machi, Kashiwa-higashi, and Hachimandai		
	Oct. 12 th (Wed.)			
	Oct. 13 th (Thu.)			
	Oct. 14 th (Fri.)			

※ Those from outside the Hobara Area can also make reservations.

[Telephone Number for Reservations] ☎ 024-572-7356 or 024-573-0538

[Reception Times] 9 AM ~ 4:45 PM (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays)

[Reception Period] During the reservation reception period for each district

[Reservation Website] Please make a reservation before 4PM two days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) prior to the exam date, via the City homepage or the QR code to the right.

[Contact] Health Promotion Department's Health Management Section ☎ 024-575-1116

Check it out!



▼ **Rubella Antibody Testing (performed simultaneously with health exam)**

[Eligibility] Men born between April 2nd, 1962, and April 1st, 1979

[Items to Bring] The separately-mailed coupon is necessary. If you do not have it available, please contact the Health Promotion Department's Health Management Section.

[Contact] Health Promotion Department's Health Management Section ☎ 024-575-1116

Apply for *Extraordinary Payments to Tax-Exempt Households* by September 30th

Applications for the *Extraordinary Payment to Households Exempt from Resident Taxes* (¥100,000 per household) are accepted until Friday, September 30th. Document submission is necessary to receive the payment.

[Eligibility] Households which are registered as Date City residents as of June 1st, 2022, and meet either criteria ① or ②

① In the fiscal year 2022, have newly become exempt from Date City resident taxes on a per-capita basis

② Have met with a drastic change in domestic finances due to the novel coronavirus

[Contact] Social Welfare Department's Regional Welfare Section ☎ 024-575-1264

Check it out!

Details found here City homepage



Health Exam for Children Entering School

School Entrance Health Exams will be performed for children who begin elementary school in the April of 2023. (※ These are different exams from the "Pre-Entrance School Lifestyle Adaptation Examinations" that took place in late May through early June.) Notices will be sent to those eligible in mid-August. Please contact the School Education Department if the notice does not arrive.

[Eligibility] Children born between April 2nd, 2016, and April 1st, 2017

※ Please refer to the notice for the schedule, site, and details of the exam. There is no fee.

[Contact] School Education Department's General Affairs and Management Section ☎ 024-573-5824



September 1st is Disaster Preparedness Day When disaster strikes, please watch out for fires!

In preparation for the earthquakes and torrential rain disasters that have occurred frequently in recent years, let's raise our disaster mitigation awareness on a daily basis by reviewing evacuation sites and escape routes.

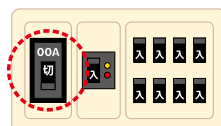
Additionally, after a power outage caused by an earthquake or lightning strike, etc., please watch out for electrical flow resumption fires and tracking fires.

What is an electrical flow resumption fire?

It is a fire that breaks out due to the return of electricity after a power outage.

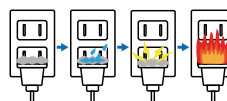
Example A power outage occurs while using a clothing iron; when the flow of electricity returns with the iron still switched on, there is the risk that flammable material it is in contact with may overheat and break into flames.

Countermeasures When leaving home during a power outage, let's cut off the flow of electricity with the circuit breaker, etc., and ensure that there is no danger of fire breaking out, even if the electricity comes back on.



What is a tracking fire?

It is a fire that occurs when dust builds up between a plug and an electrical outlet, and through the absorption of moisture from the air a small amount of electricity begins to flow between the blades of the plug, with flames eventually shooting out from this section.



Countermeasures Let's unplug electrical devices from outlets, and frequently clean them to remove any accumulated dust.

[Contact] Disaster Preparation & Crisis Management Department's Crisis Management Section ☎ 024-575-1197



Yanagawa Art Museum's 52nd Worldwide Children's Art Exhibit

The prize-winning art of students from the Kenpoku district in elementary through high school will be displayed.

[Date] Saturday, September 10th ~ Sunday, September 25th

9:30 AM ~ 5 PM (Admission ends at 4:30 PM)

Museum Closures ... Monday, September 12th, and Tuesday, September 20th

[Location] Date City's Yanagawa Art Museum

[Contact] Date City's Yanagawa Art Museum ☎ 024-527-2156

Living with Peace of Mind in Date City Supporting Senior Life

Contact: Senior Welfare Department's Regionally-Inclusive Care Promotion Section ☎ 024-575-1125

Application Method

Please submit the application documents for the program you wish to utilize to any of the General Branch Offices (in Hobara, to the Senior Welfare Department). Application documents can be obtained from any of the General Branch Offices (in Hobara, from the Senior Welfare Department), or the City's homepage.



Provision of Family Nursing Care Supplies (Diaper Vouchers)

Vouchers which can be exchanged for nursing care supplies are provided to those caring for a person at home in need of nursing care. A review was undertaken in July, and the list of items provided has been adjusted.

Eligibility When all of the following conditions ① ~ ③ are met, vouchers may be provided to the caregiver (a family member or relative).

- ① The caregiver and the one in need of care live together within the city
- ② The one in need of care lives at home and requires Nursing Care Level 4 or 5
- ③ All members of the household(s) to which the caregiver and the one in need of care belong are exempt from resident tax (it does not matter if the caregiver and the one in need of care belong to separate households).

The 12 Eligible Items

Disposable diapers	Incontinence pads
Disposable gloves	Sponge-bathing supplies
Dry shampoo	Diaper covers
Waterproof sheets	Deodorizer for portable toilets
Specialized garbage bags for diapers	Oral health supplies for nursing care
Gauze	Thickener

Provision Details Through the vouchers, **¥5,000 worth** of nursing care supplies are provided **per month for each person in need of care**.

Utilization Method Bring the vouchers to a designated pharmacy, etc., and exchange them for eligible items.

Lending of Emergency Call Devices

Devices are lent out which are capable of making emergency calls, with the aim of providing seniors, etc., who live alone with an appropriate and prompt response in case of emergencies such as a disaster or sudden illness. Device installation utilizes a fixed telephone line.

Eligibility Seniors over the age of 65, or those with a severe physical disability, who live alone or are alone during the day. ※ Please consult with us if you would like to utilize the program without meeting the above criteria

Additional Information During application, the signature or seal of three emergency contacts, or a district welfare officer, is necessary.

Usage Fee Base fee (¥2,695 per month), plus message charges

※ The City will cover the base fee for those exempt from resident tax



Lent Items

- Main unit of the emergency call device
- Call-button pendant
- Fire alarm

Senior Food Delivery Service

In order to preserve the health and confirm the safety on a daily basis of seniors living alone, meals made safely with worry-free ingredients are delivered at lunchtime.

Eligibility Seniors age 65 or older who live alone; households comprised of only seniors; seniors age 65 or older who are with only seniors during the day, and for whom food preparation is difficult

Delivery Days & Times Between 10 AM and noon on requested days, from Monday to Saturday (time adjusted in sections of certain regions)

Usage Fee ¥400 per meal

Additional Information Upon applying, it is necessary to register the contact information of two people who can be contacted in case of an emergency. After application, workers from the Regionally-Inclusive Support Center will visit the home and conduct an interview survey.

Home-Visit Hairdresser Utilization Assistance Program for Seniors

Vouchers are granted to subsidize a portion of the expenses incurred in calling a home-visit hairdresser, for seniors who have difficulty going to a barbershop or beauty salon.

Eligibility In general, seniors age 65 and older, who are either bedridden or have difficulty in maintaining a sitting position, and who also meet either of the following conditions:

- ① Certified as requiring Nursing Care Level 4 or 5
- ② Unable to visit a barbershop or beauty salon due to illness, etc.

Program Details Four vouchers (worth ¥4,000 total) or fewer are given per fiscal year. The number of vouchers given varies according to the month the application is made.

Utilization Method One voucher (worth ¥1,000) can be used on each visit by a hairdresser. (The amount exceeding ¥1,000 is to be covered by the customer.)

Rice Paddies

The golden rice paddies of September form my favorite natural scenery in Japan. Of course, the blue sky reflecting off the newly-flooded paddies is also beautiful, as are the bushy green stalks dancing in a mid-summer breeze; but I still find September's crowded paddies of rice, bowing with heavy heads of gold while awaiting the harvest, to be the finest sight of the year.

I am enamored with rice paddies not only for their beauty, but also for their overflowing abundance of life. They are filled with frogs and insects, enticing elegant white herons to find their meals there. If that were not enough, I have heard of farmers raising carp or ducks among the rice stalks, making the most use of these artificial wetlands.

While the rice paddies of Japan are teeming with life and natural beauty, they are very much the work of human hands. That struck me as odd. Growing up in America, I had been given the impression that natural beauty evaporates at the slightest human touch; that true natural beauty could only be found in environments unsullied by the presence of

people. Yet I then realized that parks and gardens are filled with natural beauty, in direct proportion to the amount of labor people pour into them. Rice paddies are the same, and the beauty of the golden paddies of September is the result of months of hard work.

This is what rice paddies of Japan have taught me: that true beauty is the result of humans and nature working together. The vast tracts of untouched natural environment found in America certainly have an appeal of their own, but I have become convinced that true beauty is brought about when humans contribute their humble efforts. As we head towards the harvest season, I am thankful to the hard-working farmers that fill this country with beautiful paddies of delicious rice!

