



URAYASU CITY

Published by the City of Urayasu
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City
News


U R A Y A S U
Population and No. of
Households in Urayasu

Population: 169,614
Male: 82,455
Female: 87,159
Households: 83,198
Foreign Residents: 4,125
(As of November 30, 2022)



Happy New Year!

I would like to express my happiness in knowing that everyone has been able to pleasantly welcome the start of 2023.

Last year, our utmost priority was on preventative measures against the spread of the novel coronavirus infection, while considering various priorities and proceeding in our business efforts at the same time.

Despite the situation, we were able to establish “Basic Regulations for City Development” that clarified fundamental principles in city development. Additionally, in order to create a new Urayasu City with the cooperation of our residents, we started a “Joint Development” phase.

We also had a long-cherished goal of introducing a Prefectural Special Support School in our city. The prefecture of Chiba has directed us to work toward opening an Elementary and Junior High School in FY2027, by utilizing the empty classrooms in Akemi Minami Elementary School and Akemi Junior High School.

This coming year, we will increase the number of Satellites at the Comprehensive Care Support Center to allow our elderly residents to feel more at ease in seeking advice and asking for consultations in areas near their homes. Furthermore, we will work on improving consultation services for those seeking support for children.

As for our urban development project related to the Nekozone Section A Land Readjustment Project, all lanes of Shinna-

Etsushi Uchida, Mayor of Urayasu City

ka-Dori that connect the Minato Line with Yanagi-Dori will become accessible. Furthermore, discussions will be held regarding the maintenance of a Pocket Park which serves as a local disaster prevention area and recreation area.

As for preventative measures for novel coronavirus infections, opinions and concerns will continue to be exchanged at the “Liaison and Coordination Meetings Regarding the Urayasu City Medical System” composed of medical associations, emergency medical service providers, and relevant agencies. Urgent care clinics will also be giving medical treatments on Sundays and national holidays to those who develop a fever.

To all residents of Urayasu City, we ask for your continued cooperation in taking all basic preventative measures against the infection.

Even though some aspects of our future still remains uncertain due to the effects of the infection, our future vision for Urayasu City has not changed. Our goal is to make “Urayasu, a city where people shine, full of energy” into a reality. I am committed in working closely with our city administration to realize this comprehensive plan.

I would like to close my New Year’s greetings by expressing my sincere wishes for this year to be a fruitful one for you all.



Major Events of Year 2022

January



"Hidamari Dental Office", a dental clinic for disabled persons, was opened (January 8th)

The nickname "Hidamari" reflects our hope that our patients will be able to safely receive treatment in a sunlit, warm and bright room.

February



Urayasu City Vaccination Center was established (February 19th)

To accelerate vaccinations, a facility with a large waiting area and air conditioning was established next to the Hinode Public Hall.

March



Signing of agreement for implementation of forest maintenance (March 23rd)

The agreement was signed in cooperation with Sammu City, with the purpose of promoting forest conservation, global warming countermeasures and mutual exchange.

April



Urayasu City Planning Ordinance enforced (April 1st)

This ordinance clarified fundamental principles for city planning efforts of Urayasu City, and included basic guidelines to promote city planning.

May



Urayasu City Planning Symposium (May 29th)

Keynote speeches and panel discussions were held regarding the significance of enacting the Urayasu City Planning Ordinance and on applying the city planning ordinance.

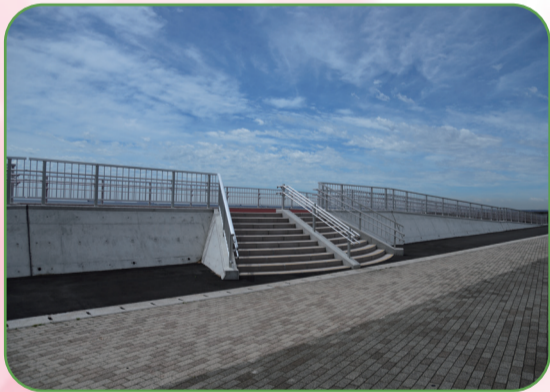
June



Inspection of Urayasu Shimin no Mori (June 30th)

In order to reuse Urayasu Shimin no Mori, located in Kurabuchi-cho, Takasaki City, Gunma Prefecture, as a place for citizens to learn about the environment in the future, we confirmed the current situation of the forest and exchanged ideas with people concerned.

July



Opening of the ramp along the Urayasu coast in Akemi and Hinode areas (July 15th)

When you go down the ramp toward the end of "Symbol Road," a view of the ocean spreads across, and the sea breeze will remind you of Urayasu, which used to be a fishermen's town.

August



The Sanbanze coastal water facility was opened (August 28th)

Located adjacent to the Sanbanze Environmental Study Center, visitors can view the ocean from the observation deck or observe the waterside environment from the waterfront seawall when participating in environmental studies conducted by the city or schools.

September



Urayasu Art Project kick-off event (September 3rd)

Urayasu City and Tokyo University of the Arts collaborated to create new values through art, improve city appeal and create opportunities to solve regional and social issues.

October



Commencing the use of the ceremonial hall extension building (October 19th)

In order to meet the diversifying demands for funeral services, a ceremonial hall was built to accommodate so-called "direct burials," in which no farewell ceremony is conducted, but small-scale funeral services such as family funerals can be held.

November



Urayasu Art Project workshop (November 20th)

Focusing on President Hibino and the city's pumping stations, the students drew water-themed artwork using chalk and transformed the pumping stations to give them a new look.

December



Briobecca Urayasu promoted to JFL (December 6th)

The coaches and players of Briobecca Urayasu, a soccer team based in Urayasu City, won the 2022 Japanese Regional Football Champions League and were promoted to the Japan Football League (JFL).

Kakutei Shinkoku (Income Tax Returns) are now more convenient with the use of smartphones

Starting FY2022, filing for tax returns will be more convenient with the use of a My Number Card or a smartphone.

Now you can create a statement for a blue return and a statement of earnings and expenses for business and real estate incomes on your smartphone.



Access the "Final Tax Return Preparation Corner" from the National Tax Agency website (<https://www.keisan.nta.go.jp>), and by simply entering numbers following the instructions that appear on screen, you can create a tax return for your income tax, submit it using e-Tax, or print it out from the website.

Inquiries: Ichikawa Tax Office **Tel:** 047-355-4101 (Residential Tax Section)

Revision of Personal Resident Tax starting from FY2023

Exceptional extension of the Special Deduction for Housing Loan, etc.

There will be exceptional measures that extends the 13-year-deduction period for an additional 4 years, which applies to those who have moved in by December 31, 2025.

For residents who have moved in after January 1, 2022, the total income for eligibility for deduction has been lowered to less than 20 million yen (previously, less than 30 million yen). The maximum deduction has also been lowered to 5% (with a maximum of 97,500 yen) of the total taxable income of the previous year.



Lowering the age of minors for the decision on resident tax exemptions

In accordance with the revision of the Civil Code that has lowered the age of adulthood, those who are 18 or 19 years of age on January 1, 2023, are not considered as minors when deciding the resident tax exception starting FY2023.

Revision of the self-medication tax system (special exceptions for medical expense deductions)

The coverage period has been extended to December 31, 2026. Also, more effective medications will be prioritized and deemed eligible, and the application process will be simplified.

Inquiries: Residential Tax Section **Tel:** 712-6212

Please Cooperate in Saving Electricity and Energy this Winter!

The cold months of January through March are the months in which heating equipment are used most frequently, and when electricity is most consumed throughout the year. Efficiently using home appliances or replacing old products are energy-saving measures that can help reduce electricity costs, and good initiatives in cutting down on household budgets. Please take part in such household conservation efforts.

Key points for saving electricity and energy in winter

Air conditioning



Frequently switching the power on and off may lead to increased power consumption. Set the room temperature to 20°C and try to turn it on only when necessary. Also, make sure to clean the filter once or twice a month.

Note: It is more effective to set the air flow to "automatic" and the air direction to "downward" while using a fan or circulator in conjunction.

Gas and oil fan heater



Set the room temperature to 20°C and turn the power off as early as 15 minutes before going out or going to bed.

Electric kotatsu (electric table)



Since it warms you from the waist down, keep your upper body warm with clothing and lower the temperature setting by one level. It is effective to use a kotatsu quilt along with a top quilt and a mattress.

Electric carpet



An electric carpet only warms a limited area, so it should only be used in areas where people are present. Use a carpet that is the right size for the room or place an insulating mat or similar item under the electric carpet to prevent heat from escaping.

Inquiries: Environmental Preservation Section **Tel:** 352-6481

Restricted Traffic Lanes on Shinnaka-Dori

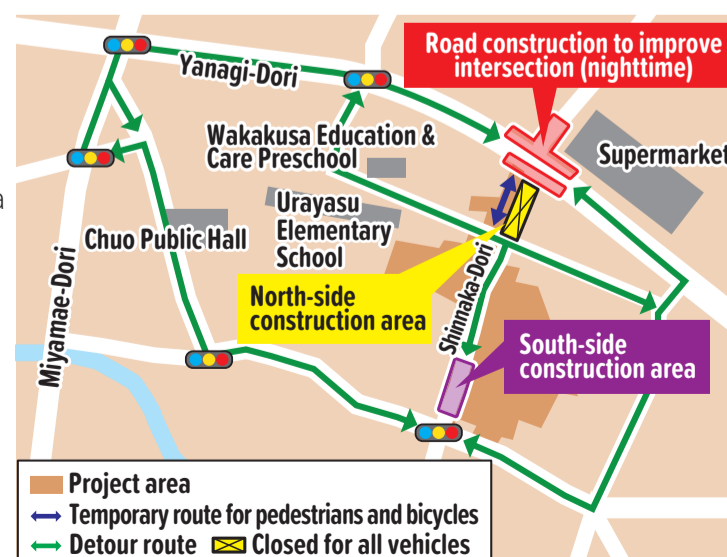
Due to the construction of water pipes and such, the north-side construction area on Shinnaka-Dori will be closed all day as shown on the map. Please use the detour routes. However, pedestrians and bicyclists can use the temporary route.

Date: From January 16 (Mon.)

Location: The area past 3-28 Nekozane

Since only one lane will be open around the south-side construction area, traffic jams are to be expected. The route may be closed temporarily at certain times, so please use the detour routes.

Inquiries: City Establishment Office **Tel:** 382-3721



Lecture Class on the Usage of Training Rooms at the Sports Park Gymnasium/Chuo Martial Arts Gymnasium (January)

To use the training room, you must attend a lecture class.

Eligibility: Those who are 15 years of age or older (excluding junior high school students), 6 people on a first-come, first-served basis for Bardral Urayasu Arena, 6 people on a first-come, first-served basis for the Chuo Martial Arts Gymnasium.



Application: Please come directly or apply by telephone, Bardral Urayasu Arena **Tel:** 355-1110, Chuo Martial Arts Gymnasium **Tel:** 380-2100.

Note: You may be able to join the lecture class if the number of participants does not reach maximum capacity. For more information, such as dates, please visit the city's website.

Inquiries: Bardral Urayasu Arena, Chuo Martial Arts Gymnasium (Sports Section)

Ikuko Kawai Violin Concert

Date and time: February 19 (Sun.), 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (doors open at 1:30 p.m.)

Location: Culture Hall

Eligibility: Elementary school students and older, 1,000 people on a first-come, first-served basis



Performance by: Ikuko Kawai (Violin) and others

Fee: 3,000 yen (2,500 yen for Sakura Mate members)

Note: All seats are reserved. Tickets are on sale at the Culture Hall and Citizens Plaza. Telephone reservations are accepted at the Culture Hall **Tel:** 353-1121 or the Citizens Plaza **Tel:** 350-3101.

Inquiries: Culture Hall (Lifelong Learning Section)

Calligraphy Classes for Foreigners

Date and time: Every Monday between January 23 to February 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (total of three classes)

Location: International Center (Inside IL Mare)

Eligibility: Foreigners that are living, working, or studying in the city, 5 people on a first-come, first-served basis

Details: Experience Japanese culture through calligraphy

Fee: 1,000 yen

Application: Please come directly to the International Center, or apply through the International Center homepage (<https://urayasu-ic.jp>) starting from January 4 (Wed.) 9:00 a.m.

Inquiries: International Center **Tel:** 306-5181

(Local Activities Promotion Section)

Soon Accepting Credit Card Payments for Water and Sewage Fees

If you wish to pay your water/sewerage fees using a credit card, please confirm your customer number and confirma-

tion number for online procedures on the "Notice of Water Consumption" or "Notice of Delivery of Water Bills, etc." and apply.

Application: Apply from the Chiba Prefecture homepage (<https://www.pref.chiba.lg.jp/suidou/gyoumu/ryoukin/creditcard.html>) from January 6 (Fri.)

Note: For more information, please visit Chiba Prefecture Website.

Inquiries: Customer Center of the Chiba Prefectural Waterworks Bureau **Tel:** 0570-001-245

(Sewer Works Section)

Prefectural Housing Tenants Wanted

Application: Please send the application form «distributed at the Housing Affairs Section (City Hall 6F), General Information (City Hall 1F), City Service Centers, or at the Central Management Office (City Hall 1F) on Saturdays, Sundays, and national holidays» to the Chiba Prefectural Housing Supply Corporation, 1-16 Sakae-cho, Chuo-ku, Chiba City, 260-0016 by January 15 (Sun.) (must be postmarked by this date).

Note: For more information, please visit the Chiba Prefectural Housing Supply Corporation website (<https://www.chibakousya.or.jp>).

Inquiries: Chiba Prefectural Housing Supply Corporation Recruitment Section **Tel:** 043-222-9200 (Housing Affairs Section)

Application Requirement Changes in the School Lunch Fee Reduction/Exemption System for Third and Subsequent Child(s)

Starting in January, the city will change the requirements for the school lunch fee reduction/exemption system for the third and subsequent child(s). Please apply if you are newly eligible for the program.

○ Before the change = Those who have three or more dependent children, who are aged between the first March 31st after the day they turn 22 years old, with school attendance requirements.

○ After change = Those who have 3 or more children as dependents, with no school attendance requirements.

Application: Please submit the application form (available at each elementary/junior high school and at the Public Health & Sports Safety Section (City Hall 7F)) in person or by mail to the Public Health & Sports Safety Section, Urayasu City Hall, 279-8501 by 5 p.m. on January 31 (Tue.)

Inquiries: Public Health & Sports Safety Section **Tel:** 712-6780

Library Card Renewal System

For the purpose of properly managing personal information, library cards will now have an expiration period of three years starting from April. If you are eligible for a renewal, please submit an application.

Eligibility: Those who registered before March 31, 2020

How to Apply: Bring your library card, identification documents and employee/student ID if you work or study



in the city to the Chuo Library or one of the branch libraries.

Note: For more information, please visit the library homepage (<http://library.city.urayasu.chiba.jp>).

Inquiries: Chuo Library **Tel:** 352-4646

Application for Regular Use of Municipal Bicycle Parking Lots in FY2023

Starting on January 10 (Tue.), we will accept applications for regular use of municipal bicycle parking lots starting in April. Those who are currently using the parking lots must also apply if they wish to use the parking lots after April. For more information, please visit the Urayasu Foundation website at <http://cyclone.azurewebsites.net/urayasu/> (if you wish to use the Shin-Urayasu bicycle parking lot No. 13, please visit the Shin-Urayasu Ekimae Plaza Mare website at http://www.shin-urayasu-ilmare.com/floor01_B1.html).



Inquiries: Urayasu Foundation **Tel:** 355-8321 Shin-Urayasu Ekimae Plaza Mare **Tel:** 380-2588 (Citizens Safety Measures Section)

We Will Subsidize the Cost of the HPV Vaccine for Those Who Receive it at Their Own Expense

For those who have received the HPV vaccine at their own expense, subsidies are available through reimbursement to either cover all or a partial amount of the vaccine cost.

Eligibility: Those who meet all of the following items

- (1) Must be a registered resident of Urayasu City as of April 1, 2022.
- (2) Have not received three routine vaccinations against human papillomavirus infection by the end of the fiscal year in which they turned 16 years old.
- (3) Received a voluntary recombinant HPV vaccine or recombinant quadrivalent HPV vaccine at a medical institution in Japan, between the time period from the first day of the fiscal year that includes the day they turn 17 years old until the end of fiscal year 2021, and paid the actual cost of the vaccination out-of-pocket.
- (4) The vaccination that you are seeking to receive reimbursement for is not a catch-up vaccination.

Note: 9-valent vaccine is not covered by reimbursement payment.

How to Apply:

Send the following application documents in person or by mail to the Maternal and Child Health Section (Health Center 1F), 1-2-5 Nekomi, 279-0004.

- What you need to apply: Application form (downloadable from the city website), original documents that prove the amount of payment at actual cost and the number of vaccinations received, maternal and child health handbook, vaccination certificate or other documents that can confirm the vaccination record, documents that show the account to which the money should be transferred (bank book, etc.), identification documents of the person

to be vaccinated (health insurance card, etc.)

Note: If the applicant and the person to be vaccinated are different, identification documents for both parties are required.

Application Period: Until March 31, 2025 (Mon.)

Subsidy Amount:

Amount equivalent to the actual cost, up to the amount set by the city for the fiscal year that includes the date of vaccination.

*The funds will be transferred to the designated account approximately one and a half months after the application form is submitted. Items not included in the cost of the vaccination (e.g. transportation costs) are not covered by the subsidy. For more information, please visit the city website.

Inquiries: Maternal and Child Health Section **Tel:** 381-9034

The Deadline for the Specified Medical Checkup is January 31 (Tue.)

The purpose of the specified medical checkup is to detect metabolic syndrome in its early stages and to improve lifestyle habits. As a result of the specified medical checkups conducted in the city, blood pressure and diabetes tests showed abnormalities in about one in two people. Even if you think you are healthy, some diseases can progress unnoticed. Please make sure to check your body condition at least once a year for a checkup and take the necessary measures to stay healthy.

Inquiries: National Health Insurance & Pension Section **Tel:** 712-6829

New Year Lion Dance

Date and time: January 8 (Sun.) 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Location: Folk Museum

Details: Lion dance demonstration (Urayasu Hayashi Hozonkai)

Note: No application required, please come directly to the venue.

Inquiries: Folk Museum **Tel:** 305-4300



Let's Enjoy New Year's Games

Date and time: January 9 (National Holiday/Mon.) 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Location: Folk Museum

Eligibility: Junior high school students or younger

Details: Experience traditional New Year's games

Note: No application required, please come directly to the venue.

Inquiries: Folk Museum **Tel:** 305-4300



Recyclable Waste Disposal Schedule

Collection Area	Bottles/Cans/PET plastic bottles	Newspapers/Magazines
Nekozane, Kitazakae, Todaijima	Every Tue.	Every Mon.
Horie, Higashino, Fujimi, Maihama, Tekkadori 3-chome	Every Wed.	Every Sat.
Kairaku, Mihama, Irifune, Hinode, Akemi	Every Thu.	Every Mon.
Tomioka, Imagawa, Benten, Takasu, Minato, Tekkadori 1- and 2-chome, Chidori	Every Fri.	Every Sat.

* Please put out your garbage between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. It is against the rules to put it out earlier or later than this designated time as it could become a nuisance in your neighborhood.

* Bulky items will be collected separately on request by phone. Call the Bulky Items Reception Center ☎ 305-4000. For inquiries, contact the Garbage-Free Section ☎ 712-6467.

FOREIGN RESIDENTS' ASSISTANCE DESK

Urayasu City provides consultation services concerning daily life such as medical, educational or job-related matters.

HOURS: 10 a.m. - 12 noon, 1 - 4 p.m. weekdays

LANGUAGES: English, French, Chinese, Polish, Russian and Japanese

PHONE NUMBER & LOCATION: 712-6910

Urayasu City Hall Local Activities Promotion Section

Foreign Residents Advisory Corner

Hours: Every Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., every Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Languages: English

Phone Number & Location: 306-5181, International Center