

# Ashiya Newsletter

Volume 9,  
No. 6  
March 1, 2001

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## Ashiya City Establishes Ordinances Involving Waste Reduction and Handling

Inquiries: Environmental Facilities Section Tel: 32-5380

Waste reduction and recycling in order to protect the environment and use our limited natural resources effectively, is a major issue for the entire society. The Home Appliance Recycling Law which was established with the goal of creating a recycling society, will be in effect as of April, 2001. By this law, the collection and recycling of TVs, washing machines (for laundry), air conditioners and refrigerators by manufacturers and retail stores will be required by law.

Defining the roles of the city, businesses and citizens and aiming to reduce waste with everyone fulfilling their respective roles, this ordinance was established in Ashiya City at the city council meeting last December, with the goal of ensuring a healthy and comfortable life for all citizens by handling used products properly and charging fees for the collection of oversized garbage in order to reduce waste.

Fees for the handling of oversized garbage will range from ¥300 to ¥2,400 starting from October of this year. Items will be collected on a reservation basis, and collection stations for oversized garbage will be eliminated. Further details will be announced via such means as orientation meetings, Ashiya newsletters and cable TV.

### Home Appliance Recycling Law

As of April 2001, used TVs, washing machines (for laundry), air conditioners and refrigerators may not be disposed of at oversized garbage collection stations.

If a consumer wishes to replace any of the above-mentioned appliances with newer models or simply dispose of their old appliances, he/she is required by law to ask an appliance store to collect the used item. If the item was not originally sold by the appliance store, the appliance store is not obligated to collect the item. However, the Appliance Store Union of Ashiya City will collect items that appliance stores are not obligated to collect.

Recycling Fee	Collection/Transportation Fee
Air Conditioners - ¥3,500	¥3,000 to ¥5,000 depending on the outlet
TVs - ¥2,700	
Refrigerators - ¥4,600	
Washing Machines ¥2,400	

\* There is also a separate consumer/local consumer tax.

The consumer must pay all fees, including the recycling fee and transportation fee to the collecting appliance store. For more information, please consult the appliance stores listed below.

Company (Store) Name	Address	Tel.
Itec Corp. Ashiya	3-6 Narihira-cho	31-1041
Shinko Electric Appliance Shokai	10-14 Daito-cho	31-3268
Itec Corp. Ashiyahama	10-8 Hama-cho	22-5426
Tachibana Electric, Ltd.	30-4 Higashiyama-cho	31-1854
Arai Electric Co., Ltd.	3-8 Funado-cho	22-9513
Toyo TV & Radio Center	6-12 Chayano-cho	32-1771
Emiya Electric Limited	2-13 Maeda-cho	22-4229
MS Club Higashi	6-12 Hama-cho	32-7588
Emiya Shokai	3-9 Maeda-cho	23-4181
Yamamura Electric Limited	1-10 Hama-ashiya-cho	34-1961
Orient Sangyo Co., Ltd.	14-1-403 Asahigaoka-cho	32-9270
Kitamura Electric Shokai Limited	4-14 Ohara-cho	34-2121
Kikuchi Electric Ashiya Store	1-13 Omasu-cho	31-3807
Sakuraya Denki	10-2 Nishiyama-cho	22-2837
Sunx Uchide Radio	4-9 Wakamiya-cho	22-5841
Kitamura Electric Okamoto Store	3-13-12 Okamoto, Higashi-nada-ku	078-431-5686
Tsuneyoshi Electric Appliances	1-6-29 Fukae-kita-machi	078-412-3450
Muto Denki	3-12-10 Uozaki-kita-machi	078-411-1384
Mizutori Denki	2-16 Kita-natsugi-cho, Nishinomiya City	0798-71-5519

Ashiya City will collect items that appliance stores are not obligated to collect. Collection by the city is on a reservation basis. Please call the Environmental Service Section to confirm a pick-up date (there is a separate recycling fee as of April 2001).

Categories	Type	Handling Fee
If Collected by the City	Refrigerators	¥6,900
	Air Conditioners, Washing Machines	¥6,300
	TVs	¥4,200
If Transported to the Ashiya Refuse Disposal Center	Refrigerators, Air Conditioners, Washing Machines	¥5,100
	TVs	¥3,600

## To the Residents of Ashiya City

Harue Kitamura  
Mayor, Ashiya City

The arrest on January 19 this year of Deputy Mayor Kunihiro Tomita on suspicion of accepting a bribe related to the public construction works was a gross scandal that betrayed the efforts of our citizens in the Earthquake Restoration program. I am at a loss for words to express my deep regret.

The arrest of the Deputy Mayor, who holds the highest position of assistance, helping the Mayor, supervising the employees and practically representing the very office of the Mayor, is truly regrettable, as we have always kept "clean and fair city

government" as our motto. Personally, I feel as though my heart is breaking. I would like to express my deep apologies for this occurring in my administration, for it shows negligence on my part.

However, with the end of the early term of the Restoration program drawing near, we must not simply drop the program. Now more than ever, we civil servants must continue moving forward as one with the Restoration program.

As leader, I will strive to restore the trust of the citizens by making improvements in the organization as early as possible. At the same time, as compensation, I promise to plan and execute thorough measures so that this kind of occurrence will not happen again. I look forward with all my heart, to the cooperation of all the citizens.

## Population and Number of Households by Town According to the 2000 National Census Results

Based on the early data tally results, the totals for the population and number of households by town has been computed in our city.

As a result of the early totals, the population of our city as of October 1, 2000 was 83,838 people, an increase of 8,806 (11.7%) over the previous census (1995). Furthermore, the figure in this census shows that the population has been restored to 96.5% of the estimated population of January 1, 1995, before the earthquake, which was 86,862.

As for population by town, Hirata-kita-machi (248.1%), Narihira-cho (119.3%) and Tsuji-cho (93.4%) showed increases in their population.

The total number of households in our city was 34,202, an increase of 5,132 (17.7%) compared to the previous census. The average household consists of 2.45 people, a decline in comparison to the previous census (2.58 people). This shows the progressive trend in nuclear families.

Taking a closer look at the population, we find that there are 38,705 men and 45,133 women, with a difference of 6,428 people. The results of the census showed that the ratio comparing men to women was 85.8 to 100, a decrease compared to the previous census (87.1) reflecting the trend toward a widening gap between the sexes.

Please note that totals of the early computation may differ from the confirmed totals announced by the Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs and Posts and Telecommunications at a later date.

**Inquiries:** Documented Statistics Office, General Affairs Section, General Affairs Department (Tel: 38-2010)

## FY2000 Large-Sized Garbage Collection Schedule

Town Name	Mar.	Apr.	May.
Yama-ashiya-cho, Nishiyama-cho, Nishi-ashiya-cho	12	9	7
Asahigaoka-cho	13	10	8
Ise-cho, Takezono-cho, Hama-ashiya-cho, Matsuhama-cho	14	11	9
Sanjo-cho, Tsukiwaka-cho, Hirata-cho, Okuike-cho, Okuike-minami-cho	15	12	10
Chayano-cho, Omasu-cho, Kimmitsu-cho, Narihira-cho, Kami-miyagawa-cho	16	13	11
Miyazuka-cho, Hirata-kita-machi	17	14	12
Kusunoki-cho, Kasuga-cho	19	16	14
Rokurokuso-cho, Iwazono-cho	20	17	15
Funado-cho, Matsunouchi-cho, Shimizu-cho, Maeda-cho	21	18	16
Yamate-cho, Okuyama, Sanjo-minami-cho	22	19	17
Higashiyama-cho, Higashi-ashiya-cho	23	20	18
Uchide-kozuchi-cho, Wakamiya-cho, Uchide-cho	24	21	19
Daito-cho, Kurekawa-cho	26	23	21
Midorigaoka-cho	27	24	22
Nangu-cho, Nishikura-cho	28	25	23
Ohara-cho, Shinnozuka-cho	1, 29	26	24
Tsuji-cho, Kawanishi-cho, Seido-cho, Miyagawa-cho	2, 30	27	25
Hama-cho	3, 31	28	26
Takahama-cho 1 to 4	5	2, 30	28
Takahama-cho 5 to 10	6	3	1, 29
Wakaba-cho 1 to 3, Midori-cho	7	4	2, 30
Wakaba-cho 4 to 7	8	5	3, 31
Hamakaze-cho, Niihama-cho, Yoko-cho	9	6	4
Shiomi-cho	10	7	5

## Hyogo Prefectural Ashiya Health Center (Tel: 32-0707)

Program	Hours	Mar.	Eligibility, Cost and Others
Healthy infants clinic	1:00 to 2:30 p.m.	8	Those eligible will be notified by mail.
Psychological checkups for 3-year-olds	from 9:00 a.m. from 10:15 a.m.	6 13	Advice on training and rearing children who are 3 years old.
Psychological consultations for 3-year-olds	1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	13	Appointment required: Analysis of delayed language skills and social skills. Counseling by medical specialists.
Child-rearing consultations	1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	12	Those eligible will be notified by mail. Counseling for child development by medical specialists.
Mental health counseling	1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	27	Appointment required: Counseling for social rehabilitation, depression, neuroses and other conditions by medical specialists.
Consultations for senior citizens' health	1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	7	Appointment required: Counseling for senile dementia, insomnia and other conditions by medical specialists.
General health consultations (fee charged), Company checkups (fee charged)	1:00 to 2:00 p.m.	2, 16	Appointment required: Examination, urinalysis, blood test, x-ray, electrocardiogram, hearing acuity, body measurements, STD test etc.
HIV tests	2:00 to 2:30 p.m.	2, 16	Confidential test possible, fee charged for test results certificate.
Stool test (fee charged) Water quality analysis (fee charged)	9:00 a.m. ~	Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays	Water quality analysis on special items; 1st and 3rd Mondays only.

Ashiya Health Center Schedule of Programs

\* The schedule of programs for April and thereafter will be determined in mid-March.

## Light Vehicle Taxes

People owning a motor vehicle (including minibikes) as of April 1 are assessed light vehicle taxes on an annual basis.

When disposing of a vehicle or transferring ownership, moving out of Ashiya, or departing from Japan, please bring the required documentation to the proper location (listed below) and ensure that the registration is changed or that the required disposal procedures have been completed. Please be aware that even if you no longer own a vehicle but are still registered as the owner, you will continue to be taxed, so it is best to complete all transfer or disposal procedures.

Category	Place
Motorcycles/motorbikes (125 cc and under), special light vehicles, minicars	Management Subsection, Taxation Section, Ashiya City Office Tel: 38-2015
Motorcycles over 125 cc	Hyogo District Land Transport Branch Office Tel: 078-453-1100
Light vehicles (three- and four-wheel)	Japan Light Motor Vehicles Inspection Organization, Hyogo Branch Tel: 078-927-3648

## City Taxes Due Before You Leave the Country

The resident tax is assessed every year for individuals who have lived in Ashiya City as of January 1; a fixed assets tax and a city planning tax are imposed every year on individuals who own fixed property (land, buildings or depreciable assets) as of January 1.

If you are planning to leave the country, please contact the following:

**Resident Tax: Resident Tax Subsection, Taxation Section (Tel: 38-2016)**

**Fixed Assets Tax: Fixed Assets Tax Subsection, Taxation Section (Tel: 38-2017)**

**Tax Consultation: Tax Collection Subsection, Tax Collection Section (Tel: 38-2014)**

# Ashiya Health Center

**Tel: 31-1586, Fax: 31-1018**

Program	Hours	Place		Mar.	Apr.	May
Tuberculin skin tests, BCG vaccinations	1:30 ~ 2:30 p.m.	Ashiya Health Center	T. skin test	5	16	-
			BCG	7	18	-
Expectant mothers' classes (appointment required)	1:30 p.m. ~	Ashiya Health Center	First period	7, 13	3, 17, 25	-
			Second period	-	-	1, 15
Health consultations for pregnant women	1:30 ~ 4:00 p.m.	Ashiya Health Center		19	16	21
Home visits to newborn babies	Anytime	Ashiya Health Center	Anytime			
Child-rearing consultations	9:30 ~ 11:00 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center		19	16	21
Child-rearing classes	9:45 ~ 11:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center		12	23	28
Health checkups for 4-month-olds	1:00 ~ 2:00 p.m.	Hyogo Prefectural Ashiya Health Center		14, 28	11, 25	9, 23
Health checkups for 1-year-olds	Anytime	Designated medical facilities	Anytime at designated medical facilities			
Health checkups for 18-month-olds	1:00 ~ 2:00 p.m.	Ashiya Health Center		15	19	17
Health checkups for 3-year-olds	1:00 ~ 2:00 p.m.	Hyogo Prefectural Ashiya Health Center		1	5	10
Allergy consultations (appointment required)	9:30 ~ 10:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center		26	9	14
Free dental consultations and checkups	1:00 ~ 2:30 p.m.	Dentists Association Hall		21	18	16
Home visit to those who are bedridden		Apply with Ashiya Health Center	Anytime			
Home visit for dental care to those who are bedridden						
Citizens' health checkups (lung cancer tests for those aged 40 or above)	9:30 ~ 10:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center		2, 13	6	11
Anemia tests						
Health checkups (appointment required)	9:15 a.m. ~	Ashiya Health Center		6, 12	3, 9	1, 7
Osteoporosis checkups (appointment required)	9:30 ~ 10:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center		27	24	22
Nutritional consultations (appointment required)	9:30 ~ 11:00 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center		27	24	22
Health consultations	1:00 ~ 3:00 p.m.	Ashiya Health Center		6, 13	10, 24	8, 22
Stomach cancer tests (appointment required)	9:15 ~ 10:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center		Mondays and Thursdays		
Tests for uterine, cervical and breast cancer	Anytime	Designated medical facilities	Anytime at designated medical facilities			
Cancer of the large intestine tests	To be submitted in the morning	Ashiya Health Center		Tuesday mornings		
Nutritional instructions classes (reservation required)	1:30 p.m. ~	Ashiya Health Center		-	-	-
Health classes (reservation required)	1:30 p.m. ~	Ashiya Health Center		-	-	25

## Clinic Open during the Holidays

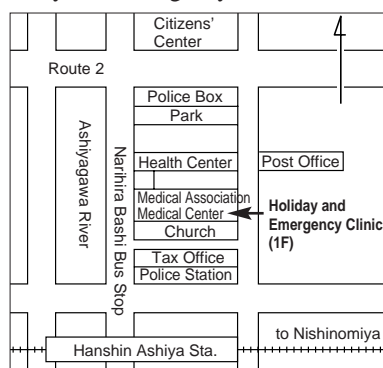
**Name:** Ashiya Municipal Holiday and Emergency Clinic

**Address:** 5-13 Kimmitsu-cho, Ashiya-shi

**Tel:** 21-2782

**Medical Departments:**  
Internal Medicine, Pediatrics  
**Days:** Sundays and national holidays  
**Hours:** 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

\* Evening/night services are available on a rotating basis. Please call the Fire Department (Tel: 32-2345) for the clinic on duty.



## Dentists (Hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon)

	Clinic Name	Address	Tel.
Mar. 4	Seaside Mizoi Dental Clinic	7-2-105 Takahama-cho	32-1008
11	Hasegawa Dental Clinic	7-11 Miyazuka-cho	34-0212
18	Hanaoka Dental Clinic	6-4 Takezono-cho	38-5533
20	Hamamoto Dental Clinic	7-1 Seido-cho	21-2288
25	Yoshizaki Dental Clinic	4-10 Nishi-ashiya-cho	31-8020
Apr. 1	Harada Dental Clinic	3-7 Maeda-cho	31-3033
8	Makihata Dental Clinic	1-16 Uchide-cho	22-3233
15	Fujimoto Dental Clinic	5-2-202 Funado-cho	31-4193
22	Fujita Dental Clinic	7-10-201 Kimmitsu-cho	25-0646
29	Masuda Dental Clinic	11-15 Shinnozuka-cho	22-5359
30	Matsuki Dental Clinic	23-8-101 Kasuga-cho	23-8811
May 3	Tsubouchi Dental Clinic	6-10-103 Seido-cho	22-1712
4	Nishiki Dental Clinic	2-11-101 Hama-cho	23-6430
5	Nishida Dental Clinic	2-21 Narihira-cho	34-6731
6	Muraoka Dental Clinic	5-14-202 Higashiyama-cho	34-6430
13	Seaside Mizoi Dental Clinic	7-2-105 Takahama-cho	32-1008
20	Seiai Dental Clinic	1-11 Kasuga-cho	32-0356
27	Yoshikawa Dental Clinic	5-12-202 Kurekawa-cho	32-6178

## We Want Your Opinion!!

Ashiya Newsletter is designed to provide information that will enrich the lives of both foreign residents living in Japan for extended periods and those here on short stays. To improve the newsletter and pack it full of the information most desired by the foreign community, we solicit your requests, questions and comments via e-mail, fax or post.

**E-mail:** info@city.ashiya.hyogo.jp

**Fax:** 0797-38-2175

**Post:** Ashiya Newsletter Editing Staff, Ashiya City International and Cultural Section, La Mall Ashiya, 2-6 Ohara-cho, Ashiya-shi, 659-0092

## ***The 13th Ashiya Cherry Blossom Festival***

**Spring in Full Bloom! We Love It!**

**Cherry Blossoms, People and This Town!**

**Inquiries:** Community Section

**Tel:** 38-2007

Spring is coming, and soon it will be the season when our city will also have beautiful cherry blossoms. Under the cherry blossoms by the Ashiya Riverbank, the 13th Ashiya Cherry Blossom Festival, sponsored by the Ashiya Cherry Blossom Festival Association will be held on April 7 (Sat.) and 8 (Sun.).

Visitors are sure to enjoy such events as the Second World Music Festa in Ashiya and fun festival booths of 40 groups such as merchant towns and welfare organizations. Come with your family and friends and enjoy this spring festival under the clear blue sky.

### **April 7 (Sat.)**

11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Festival booths  
1:00 to 1:15 p.m. Opening Ceremony  
1:30 to 4:00 p.m. Performances (Brass band, Hula dance, Central Area Self-Defense Force Orchestra and more)  
5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Second World Music Festa in Ashiya

### **April 8 (Sun.)**

11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Festival booths  
12:00 noon to 3:30 p.m. Performances (Street dance, Ichimiya-cho Taiko Drum Group, Ashiya Minami High School *koto* music demonstration, steel pan music demonstration and more)  
4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Second World Music Festa in Ashiya

## ***Information from Ashiya Women's Center***

< **Beginning Level OA Class** >

**Dates:** April 5 (Thu.) to May 8 (Tue.) (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays)

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Place:** Ashiya Women's Center

**Capacity:** 20 people

**Eligibility:** Women who would like to return to work and are currently looking for a job; must be able to attend all the classes. However, people who already have a job, students, new graduates and those with a license for word processors/computers are not eligible.

**Tuition:** Free of charge; however, the cost of the teaching materials must be personally borne (about ¥5,100)

**To apply:** Bring a regular postcard (self-addressed) to the reception office during office hours and apply in person. \*If applications exceed capacity, the students will be selected by drawing.

**Reception date and time:** March 13 (Tue.), 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

**Reception office:** Ashiya Women's Center (Tel: 38-2023)

**Inquiries:** Hyogo Prefectural Women's Center (Tel: 078-360-8550)

**Note:** Foreign residents may participate in the program provided they can understand Japanese and they have a working visa.

## ***Kyoshi Memorial Museum First Anniversary Celebration Haiku Contest***

**Sponsor:** Kyoshi Memorial Museum

**Co-Sponsor:** Ashiya City

**Date:** April 1, 2001 (Sun.)

**Time:** Museum opens at 11:00 a.m.

Contest begins at 12:30 p.m. (ends at 5:00 p.m.)

**Place:** Luna Hall

**Program:** Haiku is submitted on the day of the competition (deadline: 12 noon)

Symposium - "The Attractive Qualities of Kyoshi's Haiku"

**To apply:** No reservations required. Simply come to the hall directly.

**Inquiries:** Lifelong Learning Section

**Tel:** 38-2091

## ***Consultation is available for foreign residents who live in the city.***

**Hours:** Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Place:** ACA (La Mall 2F, 2-6-209 Ohara-cho, Ashiya-shi)

**Consultation Topics:** General problems in daily living

**Languages:** English, French, Spanish, Japanese

**Inquiries:** Ashiya Cosmopolitan Association

**Tel:** 0797-34-6340

**Fax:** 0797-34-6341

## **ACA**

### ***ACA Seminar***

**"World Heritage and Lifestyle of Mexico"**

**Speaker:** Mr. Eugenio Soler Osuna (Overseas Research and Training Student, College of Marine Technology)

**Date and time:** April 3 (Tue.), 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

**Place:** ACA

**Admission:** ¥500 for members, ¥1,000 for non-members (with tea and refreshments)

**Seating Capacity:** 30 people

\* The seminar will be in Spanish (A Japanese - Spanish interpreter will be available).

### ***JAC Hinamatsuri Doll Festival***

**Date and time:** March 3 (Sat.), 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Program:** Speech contest among participants of the ACA Japanese language class and Hinamatsuri Doll Festival Party

**Place:** ACA

**Admission:** Free of charge (reservations required). Snacks welcome!

### ***ACA Twilight Concert***

**46th "Harp and Flute Melody"**

**Performer:** Rikako Fujioka (harp), Akiko Yoneyama (flute)

**Date and time:** March 16 (Fri.), 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

**47th "Dream Time - Indian Style" - Gypsy Violin -**

**Performer:** Ms. Shigeko Kinohara

**Date and time:** April 20 (Fri.), 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Program:** Liber Tango (Piazolla), Norwegian Wood (Beatles), Aria in G-string (Bach), and more.

### **For Both Performances**

**Place:** La Mall Ashiya 1F Plaza (Atrium)

**Admission:** Free of charge

**Seating Capacity:** 100 people

### ***English Conversation Teacher Wanted***

**Number of Openings:** 1

**Class schedule:** Wednesdays, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

**Contract period:** April, 2001 to March, 2002 (No classes during the month of August)

**Contract terms:** Teacher's remuneration — ¥40,000 per month (includes transportation expense); Must become an ACA translation assistant or ACA member (Membership fee of ¥2,000/year per unit)

**Eligibility:** Native speaker of English; 20 years of age or older; must have teaching experience; must be able to speak Japanese.

**Required documents:** Resume (with photo attached) - one copy

**Where to apply:** ACA Office

**Application deadline:** Application must be received no later than March 5 (Mon.), 5:00 p.m.

**Selection process:** Interview - to be held on March 7 (Wed.) in the morning. You will be notified of the time of the interview at a later date.

**Application and inquiries:** Ashiya Cosmopolitan Association (ACA)  
**Address:** La Mall Ashiya 2F, 2-6-209 Ohara-cho, Ashiya-shi 659-0092  
**Tel.:** 34-6340 **Fax:** 34-6341  
**E-mail:** aca@sannet.ne.jp **URL:** <http://www02.so-net.ne.jp/aca/>