

Ashiya Newsletter

Volume 12,
No. 2
July 1, 2003

Published by: Ashiya City Address: 7-6 Seido-cho, Ashiya-shi Phone: (0797) 38-2008
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Message from the New Mayor



Ken Yamanaka
Mayor of Ashiya

I am honored to have been elected to serve as the 18th mayor of Ashiya. For 24 years I had been involved in the city administration as a member of the City Council, but now I truly understand the full weight and responsibility of serving as mayor.

The city of Ashiya is known throughout Japan. It has a positive image overall and is a city that people say they would like to visit. It is my goal to preserve the traditional flavor of Ashiya that has been passed down to us by our forebears. At the same time, I am committed to pursuing new developments and striving to make Ashiya a clean, safe, and beautiful city that people from around the world will want to come and see.

In an effort to remedy the City Office's general image as providing inadequate, slow service, we are going to set up an "Information Desk" ("Okomaridesu-ka") staffed by women workers who will provide basic assistance to those who need help with various questions and problems. We are also taking active steps to disclose information and to make the City Office a useful facility

in both its structure and services.

I am also promoting the Garden City Project, an effort aimed at increasing the amount of flowers, plants, and trees in the city and giving the whole city of Ashiya a garden-like appearance.

Unfortunately, however, Ashiya is still repaying massive debts from its earthquake restoration efforts and continues to face economic challenges due to the nation's prolonged economic crisis. There are likely to be many situations in which we will have to ask the citizens of Ashiya to be understanding and patient in facing the current situation, but I hope that the city government can count on your support as we strive to protect and care for our city.

Finally, it is my desire that the citizens of Ashiya, the city as a whole, and the officials at the City Office lead lives that are "cheerful, energetic, and comfortable." To facilitate this, I look forward to getting out into the city, spending time with all of you, and working together with the people of this city to come up with new ideas and take positive steps forward toward building a city government that you can have confidence in.

I am committed to working hard for you and I look forward to your continued support.

Special Allowance for Severely Handicapped Persons, Welfare Allowance for Foreign Elderly Residents Without Pension Benefits Benefit Amounts Increased as of April 2003

Ashiya City pays special allowances to handicapped persons (Ashiya City Special Allowance for Severely Handicapped Persons) and elderly persons (Welfare Allowance for Foreign Elderly Residents Without Pension Benefits) who are not eligible to receive pension benefits because they do not meet the term eligibility requirements for receiving benefits under the National Pension System. This would include, for example, those who lived abroad for a long time and therefore may be eligible.

Payments (covering the previous period) are deposited into the recipient's designated bank account in July, October, January, and April.

To find out if you are eligible, contact the City Office for more information.

Special Allowance for Severely Handicapped Persons Increased Monthly amount: ¥56,000 (previously ¥45,000)

Eligible persons must be 20 years of age or older with either a Level 1 or 2 Physically Handicapped Certificate, a Grade A Intellectually Handicapped Certificate, or a Level 1 Mentally Handicapped Health and Welfare Certificate, and must be in one of the following categories:

- Persons of foreign citizenship who turned 20 before January 1, 1982 and whose handicap manifested itself before that time.
- Persons whose handicap improved while they were receiving pension benefits, thereby making them ineligible to continue receiving benefits, but whose handicap subsequently worsened.
- Persons whose handicap or cause of the handicap was examined for the first time prior to April 1, 1986 while they were living outside of Japan.

However, the following persons are not eligible for this allowance:

- Recipients of public pension benefits (¥672,000 or more per year)

- Recipients of the Welfare Allowance for Foreign Elderly Residents Without Pension Benefits
- Recipients of living assistance benefits
- Individuals whose previous year's income exceeds the designated amount (contact us for information on income limits)

Inquiries: Handicapped Welfare Section, Tel: 38-2043

Welfare Allowance for Foreign Elderly Residents Without Pension Benefits Increased

Monthly amount: ¥25,000 (previously ¥20,000)

Eligible persons were born before April 1, 1926 and must be one of the following:

- A person who was registered as a foreign resident as of January 1, 1982 and is still registered in Ashiya.
- A person who was registered as a foreign resident prior to January 1, 1982 and who obtained Japanese citizenship on or after April 1, 1961.
- A Japanese native who resided long-term in a foreign country and returned to Japan on or after April 1, 1961.

However, the following persons are not eligible for this allowance:

- Recipients of public pension benefits (¥300,000 or more per year)
- Recipients of the Ashiya City Special Allowance for Severely Handicapped Persons
- Recipients of living assistance benefits
- Individuals whose previous year's income (or the previous year's income of their spouse or legal guardian) exceeds the designated amount (contact us for information on income limits)

Inquiries: Pension Subsection, Health Insurance and Pension Section, Tel: 38-2036

Garbage Collection Schedule by Area

Environmental Service Section Tel: 22-2155 Fax: 32-6247

Type of Garbage	Time	Days	Area
Burnable Garbage	By 8:30 a.m.	Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays	Midorigaoka, Shinnozuka, Ohara, Funado, Matsunouchi, Tsukiwaka, Nishi-ashiya, Sanjo-minami, Higashiyama, Higashi-ashiya, Kentani, Okuyama, Yamate, Yama-ashiya, Nishiyama, Sanjo, Okuike, Okuike-minami, Shimizu, Maeda, Tsuji, Kawanishi, Hirata-kita, Hirata, Narihira, Kami-miyagawa, Kusunoki
		Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays	Kimmitsu, Omasu, Chayano, Miyazuka, Uchide-kozuchi, Kasuga, Uchide, Wakamiya, Miyagawa, Seido, Hama-ashiya, Matsuhama, Takezono, Ise, Iwazono, Kurekawa, Nishikura, Hama, Nangu, Daito, Asahigaoka, Rokurokuso
Nonburnable Garbage Separate Collection 2nd and 4th weeks (Cans) 3rd week (Bottles) 1st and 5th weeks (Other nonburnable garbage)	By 12:30 p.m.	Mondays	Yama-ashiya, Nishiyama, Miyagawa, Seido, Hama-ashiya, Matsuhama, Takezono, Ise, Kurekawa
		Tuesdays	Okuike, Okuike-minami, Tsukiwaka, Nishi-ashiya, Sanjo-minami, Shimizu, Maeda, Yamate, Okuyama, Tsuji, Kawanishi, Hirata-kita, Hirata, Kentani, Sanjo
		Wednesdays	Kusunoki, Kami-miyagawa, Narihira, Kimmitsu, Omasu, Chayano, Miyazuka, Uchide-kozuchi, Kasuga, Higashiyama, Higashi-ashiya
		Thursdays	Asahigaoka, Midorigaoka, Shinnozuka, Ohara, Funado, Matsunouchi
		Fridays	Nishikura, Hama, Nangu, Daito, Uchide, Wakamiya, Iwazono, Rokurokuso

Garbage Sorting Instructions

Burnable Garbage	Nonburnable Garbage			Bulky Garbage
	Cans	Bottles/PET Bottles	Other Nonburnable Garbage	
Kitchen scraps, leather goods, paper scraps, plastics, wood scraps, cloth. - Kitchen waste should be drained of any liquid. - Wood scraps should be cut into pieces no more than 50 cm long and with a diameter of 10 cm or less. - Newspapers, magazines, cardboard, cloth, and other recyclable items should be put out for bulk collection done by residents associations, etc. - Put milk cartons in collection boxes or out for bulk collection (as above).	Collected every 2nd and 4th week of the month. Metal/aluminum cans (juice cans, beer cans, canned food cans, etc.) - Empty contents and rinse well before discarding. - Put recyclables such as empty cans out for bulk collection done by residents associations, etc.	Collected every 3rd week of the month. Juice bottles, condiment bottles, PET bottles for beverages, alcohol, soy sauce, etc. * Please place glass bottles and PET bottles in separate bags. - Remove stoppers and lids before discarding. - Empty contents and rinse well before discarding. - Return beer bottles and 1-sho (1.8 liter) bottles to the store where they were purchased.	Collected every 1st and 5th week of the month. Glass: Bulbs, glass, mirrors, cups, etc. Iron: Pots, frying pans, kettles, spray cans, etc. Ceramics: Rice bowls, flowerpots, other ceramics, etc. Other: Razors, dry-cell batteries (excluding nickel-cadmium batteries and mercury batteries).	Bulky garbage is collected by request. - Collection fees: ¥300 to ¥2,400 (in ¥300 increments) per item. - To request an appointment, call Tel: 22-2166. Open weekdays, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (closed for lunch from 12 noon to 12:45 p.m.)

Garbage Collection Calendar

	July							August							September							
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1st week (Other Nonburnable Garbage)			1	2	3	4	5						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6	
2nd week (Cans)	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
3rd week (Bottles/PET Bottles)	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
4th week (Cans)	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
5th week (Other Nonburnable Garbage)	27	28	29	30	31	24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30							

Hyogo Prefecture Health and Welfare Office Program Schedule

(Tel: 32-0707) (in Ashiya City)

Program Name	Day/Hours	July	Aug.	Sep.	
Infants Clinic	2nd Mon., 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.	14	11	8	
Child-Rearing Consultations	2nd Thu., 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	10	-	11	
Psychological Consultations for Parents and Children	2nd Tue., 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	8	12	9	
Psychological Consultations	3rd Tue., 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	15	19	16	
	1st Wed., 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	-	6	-	
Tuberculosis Checkups	3rd Tue., 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.	15	26	16	
Clinic - General Health Consultations - Workplace Checkups - HIV Antibody Checkups HCV Antibody Checkups HBs Antigen Checkups	Clinic Test Date	1st & 3rd Fri., 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., HIV/HCV/HBs test, 2:00 to 2:30 p.m.	4 18	1 -	5 19
	Post-Test Instruction Date	2nd & 4th Fri., 2:00 to 2:30 p.m. HIV/HCV/HBs test result: two weeks after the test	11 25	8 -	12 26
Families of Alcoholics Program	2nd Fri., 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon	11	8	12	
"Good Luck" Day Care for Mentally Challenged Patients	1st & 3rd Wed., 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon	2, 16	6, 20	3, 17	
Mental Health Volunteers' Gathering at El. Home	4th Fri., 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon	25	22	26	
Families of Elderly Persons with Senile Dementia "Ajisai Hydrangea Club." Held at Ohara Day Service Center on dates with ().	3rd Mon., 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.	(28)	18	(22)	
Specialized Nutritional Consultations	1st & 2nd Tue., 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon	1, 8	5, 12	2, 9	

Nonburnable Garbage Collection in Ashiyahama and Minami-ashiyahama Districts

(Burnable garbage is collected by the vacuum pipeline system)

Area	Cans	Bottles/PET Bottles Bottles: Collection Containers (anytime) PET Bottles:	Other Nonburnable Garbage
Takahama, Wakaba	Every Mon., Wed., Fri.	Every Tue.	Mon., Wed., Fri. of the 1st and 5th week
Hamakaze	Mon. of the 2nd and 4th week	Mon. of the 3rd week	Mon. of the 1st and 5th week
Niihama, Midori	Wed. of the 2nd and 4th week	Wed. of the 3rd week	Wed. of the 1st and 5th week
Shiomi	Fri. of the 2nd and 4th week	Fri. of the 3rd week	Fri. of the 1st and 5th week
Yoko, Kaiyo	Thu. of the 2nd and 4th week	Thu. of the 3rd week	Thu. of the 1st and 5th week

Ashiya Health Center

Tel: 31-1586 Fax: 31-1018

Program	Hours	Place	July	Aug.	Sep.	
Tuberculin skin tests, BCG vaccinations	1:30 ~ 2:30 p.m.	Ashiya Health Center	T. skin test	7	-	8
			BCG	9	-	10
Expectant parents' classes (reservation required)	1:30 p.m. ~	Ashiya Health Center	First period	-	6, 27	3
			Second period	2, 16	-	10, 24
			Bathing class (with fathers)	29	-	20
Health consultations for pregnant women	1:30 ~ 3:30 p.m.	Ashiya Health Center	14	18	22	
Home visits to newborn babies	Anytime	Ashiya Health Center	Anytime			
Child-rearing consultations	9:30 ~ 10:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center	17	28	18	
Child-rearing classes	9:45 ~ 11:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center	28	25	22	
Health checkups for 4-month-olds	1:15 ~ 2:00 p.m.	Hyogo Prefecture Health and Welfare Office	15, 22	5, 26	2, 30	
Health checkups for 1-year-olds	Anytime	Designated medical facilities	Anytime at designated medical facilities			
Health checkups for 18-month-olds	1:15 ~ 2:00 p.m.	Ashiya Health Center	10, 24	21	11, 25	
Health checkups for 3-year-olds	1:15 ~ 2:00 p.m.	Hyogo Prefecture Health and Welfare Office	3	7	4	
Allergy consultations (appointment required)	9:30 ~ 10:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center	7	4	1	
Periodontal disease prevention class	1:00 ~ 2:30 p.m.	Dentists Association Hall	16	20	17	
Home visits to people to prevent their becoming bedridden		Apply with Ashiya Health Center	Anytime			
Home visits 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	4, 11	1	5, 9	
Anemia tests						
Health checkups (appointment required)	9:15 a.m. ~	Ashiya Health Center	1, 7, 8	4, 5, 11	1, 2, 8	
Osteoporosis checkups (appointment required)	9:30 ~ 10:00 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center	22	22	26	
Nutritional consultations (appointment required)	9:30 ~ 11:00 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center	15	19	16	
Health consultations (appointment required)	1:00 ~ 3:00 p.m.	Ashiya Health Center	8, 22	5, 26	2, 30	
Stomach cancer tests (appointment required)	9:15 ~ 10:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center	Mondays and Thursdays			
Cancer of the large intestine tests	Apply in the morning	Ashiya Health Center	Tuesday mornings			
Get-together for seniors (functional training)	9:30 ~ 11:30 a.m.	Shiomi Elementary School	16	19	16	
Health classes, "Nutrition Advice for Various Diseases" (reservation required)	1:30 p.m. ~	Ashiya Health Center	-	27, 28, 29	-	

Clinic Open during the Holidays

Name: Ashiya Municipal Holiday Emergency Clinic

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

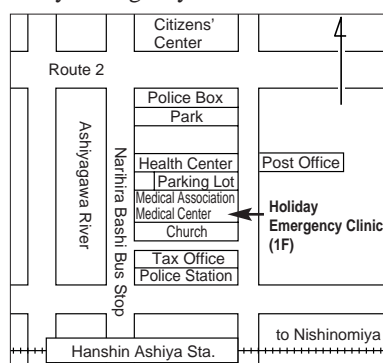
Tel: 21-2782

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.
July 6	Aramaki Dental Clinic	8-13 Kawanishi-cho	34-6483
13	Ikezawa Dental Clinic	3-9 Matsunouchi-cho	32-1780
20	Ikeda Dental Clinic	10-1 Matsunouchi-cho	35-4182
21	Inagaki Dental Clinic	5-19 Ohara-cho	22-2870
27	Uga Dental Clinic	3-7 Omasu-cho	22-4074
Aug. 3	Uwazumi Dental Clinic	11-24 Miyazuka-cho	34-1560
10	Oka Dental Clinic	11-24-206 Ohara-cho	22-0139
17	Ono D.C., Hamakaze Office	3-5 Hamakaze-cho	23-6474
24	Kishida Dental Clinic	2-12 Yamate-cho	22-1723
31	Kinoshita Dental Clinic	2-12 Asahigaoka-cho	31-1115
Sep. 7	Kodera Dental Clinic	7-3 Shiomi-cho	32-3836
14	Akashi Dental Clinic	9-6 Kimmitsu-cho	31-1560
15	Sugii Dental Clinic	3F, 1-7 Iwazono-cho	21-2525
21	Takada Dental Clinic	10-5 Hama-cho	22-1825
23	Tatara Dental Clinic	1-5-101 Higashi-ashiya-cho	32-1913
28	Tabata Dental Clinic	10-18 Funado-cho	21-5655

Child-rearing Resources Expand

The Ashiya Family Support Center was established in April. Under this mutual assistance program, those who need help with child care and those who are able to provide that help register as members. Those who register as service providers can then provide temporary or emergency care for children in their own home for a fee.

The program begins operation on July 1. Registration began on May 1 at the Support Center office.

Inquiries: Ashiya Family Support Center, Tel: 25-0521

Child Upbringing Center Summer Festival

Date and time: August 23 (Sat.), 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon

Place: Miyagawa Elementary School gymnasium

Program: Traditional games, fishing game, “*Tamaire*” (a ball game), “*Matoate*” (a dart game), picture-story telling, and more
Participants: Fun for the entire family (First-time participants are welcome!)

Bring: A plastic bag (for your shoes)

Inquiries: Child Upbringing Center, Tel: 31-8006 (at Seido Kindergarten, 11-10 Kawanishi-cho)

Friday Cinema Salon

Every Friday at 1:30 p.m.

Ashiya Municipal Library, 2F Meeting Room

July 25: “*The Wonderful Adventures of Nils*”
(Japanese animated cartoon) (1985)
Length: 1 hour 37 minutes

Young Nils plays a trick on a fairy and for that has his body shrunk.

The bewitched boy is attacked by animals and rides a goose called Marten high in the skies, and...

Citizens' Theater for the Arts

Luna Soundtrack Concert

David Howell and the Kansai Philharmonic Orchestra

Date and time: September 15 (Mon., a national holiday), 2:00 p.m. (doors open at 1:00 p.m.)

Place: Luna Hall (Ashiya)

Admission: Presale – ¥3,000 / Day of event – ¥3,300 (all seats reserved)

Performer: David Howell (conductor) and the Kansai Philharmonic Orchestra

Program: Soundtracks from “Around the World in 80 Days,” “Love Is a Many Splendored Thing,” and other films.

* The program is subject to change.

Presale tickets available at:

Mont et Mer Daichiku, City Office shop, Grill Narihira at the Ashiya Citizens' Center, Ashiya Foundation of Culture office
Ticket Pia, Tel: 0570-02-9966 (P-code: 242-239)

Lawson Tickets, Tel: 0570-06-3005 (L-code: 534-88)

* If tickets are sold out during the presale, no tickets will be available on the day of the event.

* Please do not bring preschool aged children to this event.

Sponsors: Ashiya Foundation of Culture, Hyogo Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture Board of Education, Hyogo Arts & Culture Association

Supporters: Ashiya City, Ashiya City Board of Education

Inquiries: Ashiya Foundation of Culture, Tel: 0797-31-4962

8-24 Narihira-cho, Ashiya City 659-0068

URL: <http://www.ashiya-web.or.jp/center/luna.htm>

25th Ashiya Summer Carnival

Summertime means the Summer Carnival! This year's explosive event will feature 3,000 fireworks! The 9th Ashiya Cup Dragon Boat Race will be held on the same day.

Date and time: August 3 (Sun.), 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Place: Minami-ashiyahama (Ashiya Grand Park (tentative) and Canal Park)

Now Recruiting Volunteers for the Summer Carnival

Would you like to be involved in making the carnival happen? We need you!

Volunteers will receive a complimentary staff T-shirt. For details, contact the organizing association (see below).

Inquiries: Ashiya City Citizens' Festival Association, Tel./Fax: 22-6946 (Mon., Wed., Fri., 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)
1st Brown Bldg., 2F, Room G, 1-1 Chayano-cho, 659-0067

ACA

1. Tea Time Seminar

Title: “Baguette Misunderstandings and Facts”

Instructor: Toshio Nihei (Executive Officer, Donq)

Date and time: July 12 (Sat.), 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Place: ACA

Fee: ¥500 members, ¥1,000 non-members

Capacity: 50 (reservations required)

* Participants will enjoy samples of French bread.

2. ACA Twilight Concerts

74th “Hot Harmonies for Summer”

Performers: Ashiya YO Chorus, Asahigaoka Chorus, Sanjo Chorus, Seido Flower Chorus

Date and time: July 18 (Fri.), 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Place: La Mall Ashiya 1F Plaza (Atrium)

Admission: Free

Capacity: 100

3. Carpe Diem Society

4th Meeting: French Folk Songs and Contemporary Chanson (French Songs)

Instructor: Tadashi Matsushima (professor at Kyoto University)

Date and time: July 25 (Fri.), 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Place: ACA

Fee: ¥500 members, ¥1,000 non-members

Capacity: 40 (reservations required)

Application and inquiries: Ashiya Cosmopolitan Association (ACA)

Address: La Mall Ashiya 2F, 2-6-209 Ohara-cho, Ashiya-shi, Hyogo-ken 659-0092

Tel: 0797-34-6340 **Fax:** 0797-34-6341

E-mail: aca@sannet.ne.jp

URL: <http://www02.so-net.ne.jp/~aca/>