



Ashiya Newsletter

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24th Ashiya Cherry Blossom Festival

April 7 (Sat.) and 8 (Sun.)



Volunteers are welcome!

People who can help with managing the event, security and cleaning are welcome. Please contact the organizing committee for further details.

You can also sign up on event days at the festival front office.

Inquiries: Ashiya Cherry Blossom Festival Committee, Tel. 38-2007 (Citizens' Participation in Planning Section)

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (rain or shine)

Place: The street on the west side of the Citizens' Center (between Taisho Bridge and Narihira Bridge on Route 2)

Attractions: events at a specially-set stage, street performances

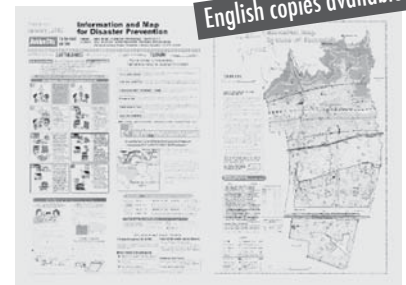


- The cherry trees will be lit up at dusk.
- Members of the local shopping association will set street stalls.

Information and Map for Disaster Prevention

Inquiries: International Exchange Citizens' Participation in Planning Section, Tel. 38-2008

The leaflet contains information about preparedness in case of earthquakes and tsunamis, evacuation sites, landslide caution zones, etc., and also an elevation map. Available to anyone at the contact address above.



Inoculation and New Registration of Dogs

Inquiries: Environment Section, Tel. 38-2050



■ The schedule for collective vaccination against rabies is as follows:

Date	1:15-2:15 p.m.	2:45-3:30 p.m.
April 9 (Mon.)	In front of Yamateyume Nursery	In front of Okuike Assembly Hall
April 10 (Tue.)	Kurekawa Park	Tsuji Park
April 11 (Wed.)	In front of Iwazono Day Nursery	Higashi-ashiya Park
April 12 (Thu.)	Ashiya Central Park	Parking lot of Minami-ashiya Grand Park

■ Fees (per dog)

Item	Registered dogs	Newly-registered dogs
Inoculation	¥2,650	¥2,650
Registration	—	¥3,000
Certificate of vaccination	¥550	¥550
Total amount	¥3,200	¥6,200

Since the vaccination team will be making the rounds, vaccination hours are observed strictly so as not to cause inconvenience to anyone. Please make sure to come well in advance.

■ Note:

- * Make sure to bring the Inoculation Notice (mailed to owners of dogs registered in Ashiya). If you fail to do so, you will have to fill out a form on the day of inoculation, which might delay your turn.
- * Check your dog's health in advance to make sure it is ready for inoculation.
- * Owners of dogs with a history of seizures due to allergy to inoculation, old dogs (10 years or over), pregnant dogs, and aggressive dogs should first consult an animal hospital.
- * For a safe and smooth vaccination, attach the collar firmly and make sure the dog is accompanied by someone able to control it when it becomes unruly, as the veterinarians and the office staff will not be able to assist you.
- * The owner is responsible for the cleanup of any dog litter in the area of inoculation.

Animal hospitals in Ashiya (random order)

Name	Address	Telephone
Fujita Animal Hospital	3-19 Matsunouchi-cho	31-6500
Bull Animal Hospital	3-2 Chayano-cho	23-5655
Ashiya Animal Hospital	9-1 Uchide-kozuchi	22-3961
Iimori Animal Hospital	12-24 Nangu-cho	38-5554
Noguchi Animal Hospital	2-6 Higashiyama-cho	32-1551
Miya Animal Hospital	5-16 Miyagawa-cho	35-1007
Marl Animal Clinic	2-21 Tsuji-cho	22-1155
Ciel Animal Hospital	25-2 Iwazono-cho	35-5751
Star Animal Clinic	12-4 Kasuga-cho	35-1010
Ashiya Seaside Animal Hospital	6-1 Takahama-cho ASTEM Shopping Plaza 2F	38-8610

Bringing garbage to the Refuse Disposal Center

For inquiries call, Tel. 32-5391

With the exception of industrial waste, hazardous items, and other items difficult to dispose of properly, any domestic or business refuse generated in Ashiya can be brought directly to Ashiya Refuse Disposal Center.

Make sure to fill out the form provided with the name and address of origin of waste, and also stamp a seal (a signature should suffice if you are a resident and go there in person).
 ☆No charge up to 10 kg: 1 load per household per trip per day; ¥900 charge if exceeding 10 kg up to 100 kg. ¥900 extra charge for every 100 kg over 100 kg.

■Disposal hours:

Monday through Friday (open also if a holiday): 9:00-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:30 p.m.

Saturday (open also if a holiday): 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Closed on Sundays.

※Disposal hours change in the year-end/New Year's season, so make sure to call in advance.

Note:

▶The Refuse Disposal Center does not accept garbage meant to be kept temporarily within its premises.

▶Disposal fees must be paid in cash only.

▶Depending on the kind and/or on the amount, fees for bulky (large-sized) garbage are cheaper if disposed of for collection.

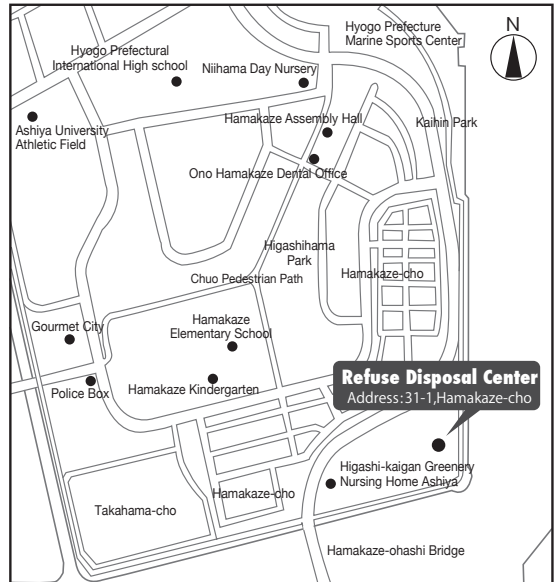
▶Tree branches and wood should be cut into pieces less than 50 cm long and less than 10 cm wide.

▶The garbage collected at the Center must be handled by the person who brought it there.

Warning: There are people who come outside disposal hours or when the Center is closed, and leave garbage inside or outside at the entrance. Since this is deemed as illegal dumping, they should take the garbage back so as not to violate the law.

Waste from business activities

It is the responsibility of businesses to dispose of waste generated from their activities. The Refuse Disposal Center can only accept waste that meets set requirements, so make sure the waste you are bringing falls into that category.



English copies of the Garbage Collection Schedule are available at the following places: International Exchange Citizens' Participation in Planning Subsection (Ashiya City Hall South Wing Floor B1), Shio-Ashiya Exchange Center (7-1 Kaiyo-cho)



Notification from the Tax Section

Municipal Taxes Due in March

Municipal Corporate Tax / Business Facility Tax

(for those closing their fiscal year January 31)
 Contact : Tax Section Management Subsection, Tel. 38-2015
 Deadline for filing and payment : April 2 (Mon.)

Municipal Taxes Due in April

Fixed Assets & City Planning Taxes (1st period)
 Contact : Tax Section Fixed Assets Tax Subsection, Tel. 38-2017
Municipal Corporate Tax / Business Facility Tax
 (for those closing their fiscal year February 29)
 Contact : Tax Section Management Subsection, Tel. 38-2015
 Deadline for filing and payment : May 1 (Tue.)

Light Vehicle Taxes

Every year a light vehicle tax is assessed on people who own a light vehicle (including motorbikes) as of April 1. If you no longer possess a vehicle due to disposal, title transfer or theft, you must update the registration to avoid being taxed. Also, if you move out of Ashiya, you need to withdraw your registration in Ashiya to avoid being taxed, and then register the vehicle in your new location. You must also report disposal if you plan to leave Japan. Please bring the required documentation to the office below to complete applicable procedures.

Please note that even if you file the disposal record in the middle of the year, you will still be responsible for paying the entire tax, as there is no refund for the remainder of the year.

Category	Where to process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Motorbikes (less than 125 cc) ● Special Light Vehicles ● Minicars 	Ashiya City Hall Tax Section Management Subsection (South Wing 1F Counter #13) 7-6 Seido-cho, Ashiya 659-8501 Tel. 0797-38-2015
Two-wheeled Vehicles over 125 cc	Hyogo Land Transportation Dept. Kobe Transportation Bureau Branch Office 34-2 Uozaki Hama-cho, Higashinada-ku, Kobe 658-0024 Tel. 050-5540-2066
3 and 4-wheeled Light Vehicles	Japan Light Motor Vehicle Inspection Organization Hyogo Branch 67-1 Isumi Aza-Magota, Tamatsu-cho, Nishi-ku, Kobe 651-2145 Tel. 078-927-3648

Municipal Taxes Due in May

Light Vehicle Tax

Contact : Tax Section Management Subsection, Tel. 38-2015
Municipal Corporate Tax / Business Facility Tax
 (for those closing their fiscal year March 31)
 Contact : Tax Section Management Subsection, Tel. 38-2015
 Deadline for filing and payment: May 31 (Thu.)

Municipal Taxes Due in June

Individual City and Prefecture Resident Tax (1st period)
 Contact: Tax Section Resident Tax Subsection, Tel. 38-2016
Municipal Corporate Tax / Business Facility Tax
 (for those closing their fiscal year April 30)
 Contact : Tax Section Management Subsection, Tel. 38-2015
 Deadline for filing and payment : July 2 (Mon.)

Taxpayer Inspection of Fixed Assets Tax Ledger

Inquiries: Tax Section Fixed Assets Tax Subsection, Tel. 38-2017

Records of Fixed Assets Tax Ledger for fiscal year 2012 will be open to inspection as follows.

Period: April 2 (Mon.) to May 1 (Tue.); closed on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Place: Ashiya City Hall South Wing 1F, Tax Section South Consultation Room

Eligibility: In principle, limited to owners of fixed assets or their representatives.

To bring: Tax payment notice of the previous year, driver's license, health insurance certificate or another form of identification. If not in person, a proxy is required.

Review of Amounts in Fixed Assets Tax Ledger

Inquiries: Ashiya City Fixed Assets Assessment Inspection Committee (Ashiya City Hall South Wing 2F), Tel. 38-2010

If you disagree with the figure contained in the fixed assets tax ledger, you may request a review. Submit in writing to the Ashiya City Fixed Assets Assessment Inspection Committee, from April 2 (Mon.) to the 60th day following receipt of your tax notice.

Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Montebello-Ashiya Sister City Agreement

~ A Montebello delegation arrived in Ashiya on November 11, 2011 ~

Inquiries: International Exchange Citizens' Participation in Planning Subsection, Tel. 38-2008

Last year we joyfully celebrated the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the sister city agreement with the City of Montebello, California, in May 1961. Since its establishment, as part of the exchange program, citizens' delegations from both sides have been visiting each other. In July of last year a delegation from Ashiya visited Montebello, and in November a delegation from Montebello reciprocated, coming to Ashiya to participate in a variety of events related to the celebrations of the 50th anniversary. The following is a brief description of their visit and also a message from the President of the Montebello-Ashiya Sister City Association.



▲ A memorial (up photo) was erected at the entrance of the Shio-Ashiya Exchange Center in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the sister city agreement, and the street in front of the Center fondly named Montebello Street (down photo).

We wanted to thank all for the wonderful reception and program of events in Ashiya. The ceremonies, the excursions, and the meals were all wonderful. However, we especially enjoyed the time that we spent meeting and conversing with local people in Ashiya. Although I do not understand Japanese, there were many times when no language was needed to be spoken. Our wish is to have many more years of friendship and cooperation between the sister cities and the people of Ashiya and Montebello.



Carlos Manuel Haro, Ph.D.
President of the Montebello-Ashiya Sister City Association

Schedule of the Montebello Delegation Visit to Ashiya

November 11 (Fri.) to 17 (Thu.), 2011

1st day	Visit to Montebello Rose Garden Courtesy call to the Mayor, and the Chairman of the City Council. Visit to Ashiya City Council Chambers
2nd day	Tour of Ashiya (Police Department, Main Fire Department, Ashiya University, Ashiya Shrine) Homestay with host families
3rd day	Unveiling of Montebello Street and the monument commemorating the 50th anniversary Celebration Party for the 50th anniversary Homestay with host families
4th day	Kyoto sightseeing
5th day	Visit to Hamakaze Elementary school (class observation, school lunch), exchange of opinions Informal meeting with the students of the language class
6th day	Nara sightseeing
7th day	Departure for the U.S.A.

Hyogo International Association Information and Advisory Service Center

The Hyogo International Association has an "Information and Advisory Service Center" which offers free counseling for foreign residents on all aspects of living in Japan. Consultants speak English, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese and Japanese, and assist those who are in need of help. Free legal counseling provided by lawyers is also available. Feel free to contact us.

- Counseling in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese and Japanese.
- ◆ General Monday-Friday 9:00-17:00
 - ◆ Legal Monday 13:00-15:00 (Appointment necessary)

Location Kobe Crystal Tower 6Fl.
1-1-3 Higashi-Kawasaki-cho, Chuo-ku, Kobe 650-0044
(General Consultation Center for Hyogo Residents)
3 minute-walk from JR Kobe station
TEL 078-382-2052 FAX 078-382-2012

Guidance to Libraries in Ashiya

Taking out books



- ▶ You can borrow material for 2 weeks.
- ▶ Though there is no limit to the number of items you can borrow, a good measure is borrowing enough reading material for 2 weeks per person.
- ▶ Anyone who lives, works or studies in Ashiya, and also anyone with residence in Nishinomiya, Amagasaki, Kawanishi, Takarazuka, Itami, Sanda or Inagawa are eligible for the service.
- ▶ To apply for a library card, bring an ID card - like your driver's license - which displays your name and place of residence.
- ▶ The library staff can always assist you in finding any material or books you need.
- ▶ Make a reservation when the material or book you are looking for is not readily available. We will do our utmost to meet your needs.

[Main Municipal Library]

12-5 Ise-cho, Tel. 0797-31-2301

■Hours: 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

■Closed: Mondays and 1st Tuesday of the month (open if it falls on a public holiday, and closed on the subsequent weekday); year-end/New Year's (Dec. 29-Jan. 4), inventory days (up to 14 days in a year, announced in advance)

[Uchide Branch Library]

15-9 Uchide-kozuchi, Tel. 0797-38-7220

■Hours: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

■Closed: same days as for the Main Municipal Library, and also from Sunday through Tuesday and public holidays

[Ohara Branch Library]

20-2 Ohara-cho, Tel. 0797-38-7762

■Hours: 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

■Closed: same days as for the Main Municipal Library and also on Mondays and Tuesdays

Audio-visual Library

※The material and equipment is available only to the staff of associations in Ashiya who have attended training workshops sponsored by the Audio-visual library.

Material and equipment that can be borrowed:

8 mm and 16 mm projectors, slide projectors, tape recorders, overhead projectors, video cameras, VCRs, screens, 16 mm films, 8 mm films, video-tapes

EVENTS

Junichiro Tanizaki Memorial Museum

Tel.: 23-5852

◆ Admission fee : 300 yen (150 yen for residents of Ashiya aged 65 or over)

▷ Hours: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (admission closes at 4:30 p.m.)

▷ The museum is closed on Mondays (open if public holidays, and closed on the subsequent Tuesdays)

Temporary closing for change of display: March 26 (Mon.)-31 (Sat.)

[Exhibition Room]

Spring Special Exhibit

“Junichiro Tanizaki, Foresighted Man of Letters – ‘The Tale of *Genji*’ in modern Japanese, ‘The Makioka Sisters’, ‘The Key’---Media strategy as seen in his masterpieces”

■ From April 1 (Sun.) to June 24 (Sun.)

● Junichiro Tanizaki reacted promptly and kept pace with developments in the publishing culture, and had a remarkable sense for trends, modes of life and social situations. The bulk of his literary activity extends for over half a century, from the beginning of *Taisho* Era to his death in the year 40 in *Showa* Era (1965). His innate talents explain why he was so productive and always at the vanguard of the literature of his time. The present exhibit will give a picture of the changes and evolution of the relationship between the author and the publishing media in the light of development of modern publishing, show where his creative activity and the entirety of his works stand, and also shed light on how deftly his enterprising spirit helped him make full use of media.

[Lobby Gallery]

Kimi Niikura Solo Exhibit

“Gifts from the Heart, The World of *Shirushitegami* Calligraphy”

■ From Feb. 15 (Wed.) to March 25 (Sun.)

● Theme: display of works by Kimi Niikura, *Shirushitegami* calligraphy artist

Koen Tsumori Oshie Cloth (Padded) Pictures

■ From April 1 (Sun.) May 13 (Sun.)

● Theme: ancient Japanese art of *Oshie*

pictures, made by wrapping pasteboard with traditional Japanese *chirimen* cloth

Minoru Asada Photo Exhibit

■ From May 16 (Wed.) to June 24 (Sun.)

● Theme: beautiful pictures of nature taken by photographer Minoru Asada

Friday Cinema Salon

Tel: 31-2301

● Starting Time: 1:30 p.m. (Doors open at 1:15 p.m.)

● Place: Ashiya Municipal Library, 2F Meeting Room

※ Closed on May 4th, Greenery Day

■ March 2

Breakfast at Tiffany's

(*Tiffany de Choshoku wo*)

1961, U.S.A., 1 hour 54 minutes

Director: Blake Edwards

Starring: Audrey Hepburn, George Peppard.

■ March 16

Charade (Sharedo)

1963, U.S.A., 1 hour 53 minutes

Director: Stanley Donen

Starring: Audrey Hepburn, Cary Grant

■ April 6

Kenka Ereji (Fighting Elegy)

1966, Japan, 1 hour 26 minutes

Director: Seijun Suzuki

Starring: Hideki Takahashi, Junko Asano

■ April 20

Biruma no Tategato (Burmese Harp)

1985, Japan, 2 hours 14 minutes

Director: Kon Ichikawa

Starring: Kiichi Nakai, Koji Ishizaka

■ May 18

Fahrenheit 451 (Kashi 451)

1966, Anglo-French, 1 hour 52 minutes

Director: François Truffaut.

Starring: Oskar Werner, Julie Christie

■ June 1

Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid (Asu ni Mukatte Ute)

1969, U.S.A., 1 hour 50 minutes

Director: George Roy Hill

Starring: Paul Newman, Robert Redford

■ June 15

Bonnie and Clyde (Oretachi ni Asu wa Nai)

1967, U.S.A., 1 hour 52 minutes

Director: Arthur Penn

Starring: Warren Beatty, Faye Dunaway

Events at Ashiya Municipal Hospital

Tel. 31-2156

[Matinee Concert]

Hours: 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Place: 5F Outpatients Lobby, in front of the yellow piano

■ Date: March 25 (Sun.)

Spring Festival Concert

Sopranos: Noriko Asai, Mayumi Shirakashi

Pianist: Kayoko Kanazawa

■ Date: April 29 (Sun.)

Singer: Yoko Kobori

Pianist: Hideo Kobori

■ Date: May 13 (Sun.)

Singer: Kaori Samori

Violinist: Sachiko Tsuzuki

Piano: Hiroko Yazaki

■ Date: June 3 (Sun.)

Melodies Flowing from Fingertips Part III

Performers: Sign Language Singing Group Ashiya

[Citizens' Gallery]

Place: 4th Floor Temporary Connecting Corridor Exhibition Gallery

■ Date: Feb. 29 (Wed.) to March 30 (Fri.)

The One Shot I Like Exhibit

Exhibitors: Asada Photography Class Members, *Tanoshiku Shashin wo Utsuro Kai* (Association Photography Fun)

Ashiya Kirakuen Gallery

Tel. 34-4351

▷ Hours: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Closes at 3:00 p.m. on the last day)

[All Ashiya Kirakuen Exhibit]

■ Dates: March 2 (Fri.) to 18 (Sun.)

[Spring Orchids Exhibit]

■ Dates: March 20 (Tue./public holiday) to 25 (Sun.)

[Japanese Painting Exhibit]

■ Dates: March 27 (Tue.) to April 2 (Mon.)

[Tanka Poetry Association Exhibit]

■ Dates: April 4 (Wed.) to 15 (Sun.)

[Haga (leaf painting) Art Exhibit]

■ Dates: April 17 (Tue.) to 30 (Mon./public holiday)

[Keiko Narimiya: The Round of the Seasons]

■ Dates: May 2 (Wed.) to 15 (Tue.)

[Aesop Photography Club Exhibit]

■ Dates: May 17 (Thu.) to 31 (Thu.)

[Nobuyuki Mori: Art Exhibit]

■ Dates: June 2 (Sat.) to 14 (Thu.)

[Masamichi Takeda Exhibition: "My Dog"]

■ Dates: June 16 (Sat.) to 30 (Sat.)

Main Events at Municipal Schools (March to June 2012)

Ashiya City Board of Education School Education Section

Tel. 38-2087

Month	Date	Event	Location
March	Feb. 25 (Sat.) to March 4 (Sun.)	Plastic Arts Education Exhibition	Museum of Art and History
	9 (Fri.)		Junior high schools
	16 (Fri.)	Graduation	Kindergartens
	19 (Mon.)		Elementary Schools
	22 (Thu.)		Kindergartens
April	23 (Fri.)	Term closing	Elementary & Junior High Schools
	25 (Sun.)	Brass Band Association regular concert	Luna Hall
	9 (Mon.)	Term opening	Elementary & Junior High Schools
	10 (Tue.)	Entrance	Junior High Schools
May	11 (Wed.)	Term opening	Kindergartens
	12 (Thu.)	Entrance	Elementary Schools
	11 (Mon.) to 15 (Fri.)	Entrance	Kindergartens
	May 28 (Mon.) to June 1 (Fri.)	<i>Toraiyaru</i> (Let's Try) Week Camping school	Yamate Junior High School Hamakaze Elementary School
June	4 (Mon.) to 8 (Fri.)	<i>Toraiyaru</i> (Let's Try) Week	Shiomi Junior High School
	11 (Mon.) to 15 (Fri.)		Seido Junior High School
	5 (Tue.) to 9 (Sat.)	Camping school	Yamate Elementary School
	29 (Fri.)	Opening Ceremony of Junior High School Athletic Meet	Ashiya Grand Park

Advertise in Ashiya Newsletter!

Corporate and organizational ads accepted. Inquiries and applications: Ashiya City Hall International Exchange Citizens' Participation in Planning Subsection (South Wing Floor B1)

Tel. (0797) 38-2008, Fax (0797) 38-2004

Ad rate: 5,000 yen per issue

Ad size: 9.3 cm high x 8.0 cm wide

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(decided by lots if too many applications)