

# IRUMA COM+COM



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English

Edited by: Information Desk for Foreign Residents, Chiiki Shinko-ka, Iruma City Office, Tel: 04-2964-1111 ext. 2147

## BICYCLE REGULATIONS TIGHTENED FROM NOVEMBER 1

From November 1, 2024, the Amended Road Traffic Act will be implemented. Using a smartphone while riding and riding under the influence of alcohol are regarded as a violation of the law and would be subject to harsher imprisonment or fines. This is because of the recent increase in accidents caused by careless riders. Follow traffic rules when riding a bicycle.

### Using a smartphone while riding a bicycle: ¥100,000 fine?!

Holding a phone or watching a screen while riding a bicycle is subject to imprisonment for not more than six months or a fine of not more than 100,000 yen. It is not illegal to check your phone while waiting at traffic lights, but you must be careful because you are still on the road. Holding an umbrella while riding a bicycle is also subject to up to 50,000 yen fine. In short, you need to hold the handle with both hands all the time.



### Riding a bicycle under the influence of alcohol: ¥500,000 fine?!

If the rider's breath alcohol content is over 0.15 mg per liter, imprisonment for not more than three years or a fine of not more than 500,000 yen would be imposed.

### Bicycle insurance and helmets:

Saitama Prefecture has made bicycle insurance legally mandatory. You need to purchase bicycle liability insurance, which can be arranged on the internet and costs a couple hundred yen a month.

Also, the law obliges bicycle riders to make efforts to wear a helmet. There is no penalty, but wear a helmet for your own safety.

### Other Rules for Bicycles:

Ride a bicycle on a roadway on the left-hand side. Riding on a sidewalk is allowed only in exceptional circumstances. Use a light: riding without a light at night is very dangerous.

**Inquiries:** Shimin Anzen-ka (Section for Citizen's Safety)

## GET READY FOR IT! EMERGENCY DRILL ON NOVEMBER 10

Iruma City will have an annual emergency drill all over the city on November 10 (Sun). All the *jichikai*, or neighborhood associations in the city will host a disaster drill in the area. This year, special focus is placed on setup and operation of temporary shelters at designated sites. Citywide activities include announcements in foreign languages, city's emergency message through cellphones, etc.

**Inquiries:** Kiki Kanri-ka (Section for Crisis Management)

## Share the parenting wisdom from your country PARENTING SALON @ Seibu Chiku Center November 14 (Thu) from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Shall we talk about child rearing over a cup of tea, and have a fun time together with your baby? This is an event planned by public health nurses working for the Kenko Fukushi (Health and Welfare) Center who would like to learn more about how parents with foreign origin live life with children. They invite expecting mothers, infants and their parents/guardians. Measurement of baby's height and weight will be given. Participation is free. No registration is necessary; just drop in. Bring your Mother and Child Handbook (boshitecho) and a bath towel.



The venue is Seibu Chiku Center (496 Noda, Iruma City ☎04-2932-0033), 11 minute walk either from Bushi Station or from Motokaji Station.

**Inquiries:** Kenko Fukushi (Health and Welfare) Center ☎04-2966-5513

## HOLIDAY MEDICAL SERVICES

If you or a family member becomes sick or injured on these days, visit a hospital on the list. Healthcare covered by health insurance is provided from 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Please make a call before visiting. These services are basically for patients who do not need to be hospitalized.

	Name of hospital	Specialized in	Address	Tel.		Name of hospital	Specialized in	Address	Tel.
Nov 3	Kaneko Byoin	Internal medicine	Araku 680	04-2962-2204	Nov 17	Iruma Heart Byoin	Internal medicine	Koyata 1258-1	04-2934-5050
	Toyooka Seikei GekaByoin	Surgery	Toyooka 1-7-16	04-2962-8256		Toyooka Seikei Geka Byoin	Surgery	Toyooka 1-7-16	04-2962-8256
4	Kobayashi Byoin	Internal medicine	Miyadera 2417	04-2934-5121	23	Kaneko Byoin	Internal medicine	Araku 680	04-2962-2204
	Toyooka Daiichi Byoin	Surgery	Kurosu 1369-3	04-2964-6311		Toyooka Daiichi Byoin	Surgery	Kurosu 1369-3	04-2964-6311
10	Seibu Iruma Byoin	Internal medicine	Noda 3078-13	04-2932-1121	24	Kobayashi Byoin	Internal medicine	Miyadera 2417	04-2934-5121
	Harada Byoin	Internal & Surg.	Toyooka 1-13-3	04-2962-1251		Harada Byoin	Internal & Surg.	Toyooka 1-13-3	04-2962-1251
<p><b>Kyukyu Denwa Sodan</b> (emergency consultation hotline) is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year: Push #7119 or Dial 048-824-4199. As for children, <b>Shoni Kyukyu Denwa</b> (pediatrics hotline): Push #8000 or Dial 048-833-7911. Nurses give advice on whether to seek hospital care for sudden illnesses or injuries.</p>									

## Information Desk for Foreign Residents

Located on the 2nd floor of the City Office. All consultations are kept confidential. **English:** Every Tuesday and, by appointment, 2nd & 4th Friday, **Spanish:** Every Wednesday, **Chinese:** November 7 and December 5 (First Thursday of the month), **All from 9:00 a.m. to noon.**

Consultations by fax (04-2964-1720), by e-mail (i-society@city.iruma.lg.jp), or by LINE video talk (needs to make friends with International Friendship Society first) are welcome.

Thank you for coming to Iruma Mando Festival and Plaza de Amigos del Mundo!

Iruma International Friendship Society

## YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE CARD IS VALID UNTIL EXPIRATION DATE



In Japan, the issuance of health insurance cards will be discontinued on December 2, 2024 and MY number cards will be the main insurance certificate. However, your current health insurance card is valid until the expiration date printed on the card. If you have not registered your MY number card as your health insurance card by the expiration date, your insurance organization will automatically send you a certificate of confirmed membership (資格確認書 shikaku kakunin-sho). You can use the certificate just like the current health insurance card. **Inquiries:** Kokuho Iryo-ka (Section for National Health Insurance and Medical Care)

## SPECIAL 'SATURDAY' TAX COUNTER Opens on November 23 (Saturday)

The Section for Tax Collection will open its counter on Saturday, November 23 between 9:00 and 11:30 a.m. for those who have difficulty visiting City Hall on weekdays. You can pay city taxes (e.g. residential tax, national health insurance tax), or, by appointment, receive a consultation on tax payments (e.g. for overdue tax bills). **Appointment & Inquiries:** Shuzei-ka (Section for Collecting City Tax)

## SAITAMA DAY OF THE PEOPLE: NOV. 14

November 14 (Thu) is Saitama Prefecture's Day of the People (Kenmin-no hi) and schools are closed. To celebrate the anniversary of prefecture's administration, admission to the Iruma City Museum is free on this day. Other public facilities such as Chikozan Child Zoo (in Sayama) and Sunshine City Aquarium in Ikebukuro offers discount on admission for all Saitama citizens. **Inquiries:** Kenmin Kocho-ka (Prefectural Citizens' Opinion Section) in the Saitama Prefectural Office ☎ 048-830-3192

## Special Exhibition of City Museum "Story of Buildings in Iruma"

Until December 15 (Sun) from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the City Museum ALIT. This exhibition focuses on outstanding buildings in Iruma, which still exist and do not exist today. By knowing the backgrounds of these buildings, you will learn more vivid history of our city. Admission is 200 yen for adults. Free for students and children. Free for everybody on November 14. The Museum is closed on Monday. **Inquiries:** City Museum ALIT ☎ 04-2934-7711

Old Toyooka Hall



## EVENTS THIS MONTH

### 'FUREAI' MARCHÉ IRUMA

November 13 (Wed) from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the garden of Iruma City Office. Fresh eggs, vegetables, tofu, miso and teas locally produced are sold. **Inquiries:** Nogyo Shinko-ka (Section for Agricultural Promotion)

### Agricultural Festival

#### November 23 (National Holiday) 9:45AM-1:00PM

At the Sai-no-mori Park. You can buy local fresh-from-garden vegetables for low prices. A drawing for agricultural products will be held. Promote 'local production for local consumption!' **Inquiries:** Nogyo Shinko-ka (Section for Agriculture Promotion)

### Tea Ceremony @ Old Ishikawagumi Seishi Guest House

November 24 (Sun) at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. (four rounds) at the old Ishikawagumi Seishi Guest House (western style mansion on Route 16). You can learn traditional manners in Japanese style rooms, and of course how to make and taste a cup of macha green tea. Fee is 1,500 yen for adults and 1,000 yen for elementary and junior high school students. **Inquiries:** City Museum ALIT ☎ 04-2934-7711



### 3rd IRUMIN Festival

#### November 30 (Saturday) 10:00AM-2:00PM

At Irumin, or Shimin Katsudo Center (4-2-2 Toyooka, Iruma City). Bazaar, stamp rally, workshops, exhibitions, kitchen cars, café, and many more. **Inquiries:** Shimin Katsudo (Citizen's Activity) Center ☎ 04-2964-2511

### Udon Noodle Making Class in Yaganuki

November 30 (Sat) from 9:30 a.m. at Noson Kankyo Kaizen Center (915-3 Shimo-Yaganuki, Iruma City). Learn how to make hand-kneaded noodle. Fee is 1,500 yen. Participants are limited to eight, and decided by lottery. Apply by phone or mail. **Inquiries:** Noson Kankyo Kaizen Center ☎ 2936-0900 ✉ info@iruma-noukai.jp

### 29th Life-Long Education Festival

#### December 1 (Sunday) 10:30-3:45

At the Sangyo Bunka Center. A good opportunity to learn about the activities of various clubs and groups in the City which you may feel tempted to join. You can also enjoy Iruma's gourmet food. **Inquiries:** Shakai Kyoiku-ka (Section for Social Education)

### This Month's Shimin-ka Opening on Saturdays November 9 and 23, 8:30 a.m. to noon

Report of moving-in/moving-out; Issuance of certificate of residence (juminhyo)/ family register (koseki); Registration of seal/issuance of certificate of registered seal; Report of birth, death, marriage, divorce and other family register-related events

### This Month's Tax Payment (Due date: December 2)

- ◆National Health Insurance Premium (国民健康保険税)
- ◆Kaigo Insurance Premium (介護保険税)

## CITY FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR FY 2023 PUBLISHED

Iruma City has closed its books for the 2023 fiscal year which ended on March 31, 2024. In the general account, the overall revenue came in at 49,317 million yen, which is a 1.2% increase from the previous year. The expenditure also increased by 2.2% to 48,099 million yen.

### ¥150,846 vs. ¥333,412 per capita

Municipal taxes contributed 21,761 million yen (44.13% of the total revenue) which equates to 150,846 yen per capita, while the expenditure per capita was about 333,412 yen. The difference is mostly covered by the subsidies from the National governments and loans.

### We are in a healthy financial state

There are several barometers for the health of municipal finance. For Iruma, we have good results in all, including the ratio of the budget deficit, the ratio of the burden for the future and the funding gap for public-service companies.

**Inquiries:** Zaisei-ka (Financial Section)

How Much Did the City Spend on What? (% of the total General Account Expenditure)		
Welfare	¥22,553M	(46.89%)
Administration	¥6,197M	(12.88%)
Education	¥4,652M	(9.67%)
Sanitation	¥4,318M	(8.98%)
City Bond	¥3,700M	(7.69%)
Civil Engineering	¥4,038M	(8.40%)
Fire Fighting	¥1,923M	(4.00%)
Others	¥717M	(1.49%)

## RIICHIRO SUGISHIMA ELECTED AGAIN AS IRUMA'S MAYOR

As the result of the vote election on October 20, the current mayor Riichiro Sugishima was elected to serve his second term, which is November 18, 2024 to November 17, 2028.