

WATER AND SEWER RATES TO INCREASE ON OCTOBER 1



Iruma City has operated its water and sewer services without revising rates since 1999 for water and 2006 for sewage. However, due to recent changes in social conditions and other factors, the financial situation has become increasingly difficult, and a funding shortfall is projected for the future. To maintain sound management and ensure that everyone can continue to use water and sewer facilities with confidence, we will revise our water and sewer rates effective October 1, 2026. The first invoice under the new pricing structure will be issued in December or January of next year, depending on the billing month for your region. We ask for your understanding in this matter.

WHY ARE CHARGES BEING RAISED?

INCREASE IN COSTS PAYABLE TO THE PREFECTURE

Approximately 80% of Iruma City's tap water is supplied by the prefectural waterworks system, and 100% of sewage is treated at a prefectural treatment plant. These costs for this service increased on April 1, 2026.

DECLINE IN REVENUE AND RISING PRICES

While water utility revenue is projected to continue declining due to population loss, costs such as power and repairs are rising due to factors like inflation.

AGING OF FACILITIES

The time has come to renew facilities due to aging, necessitating renewal and seismic retrofitting.

COMPARISON TABLE OF OLD AND NEW RATES BASED ON USAGE EXAMPLES

For two months / Tax included

Usage amount examples		10 m ³	20 m ³	40 m ³
Current	Water	¥1,485	¥2,310	¥4,950
	Sewer	¥1,540	¥1,540	¥3,630
	Total	¥3,025	¥3,850	¥8,580
Revised	Water	¥1,870	¥2,750	¥6,050
	Sewer	¥1,650	¥2,387	¥5,181
	Total	¥3,520	¥5,137	¥11,231
(Difference)		(+¥495)	(+¥1,287)	(+¥2,651)

Inquiries: Jogesuido Keiei-ka (Section for Water and Sewer Management)

Plaza de Amigos del Mundo

AT THE MANDO FESTIVAL ON OCTOBER 24 & 25 STAFF MEMBER WANTED



The Iruma Mando Festival, the biggest excitement of the city, will be held on October 24 and 25 (Sat & Sun). The Iruma International Friendship Society organizes one of the most popular spots in the festival, Plaza de Amigos del Mundo, which features an international food court. The Society is now looking for people who can help with operating the Plaza, as a shop keeper, a beer server etc. Basic Japanese skill is preferable but most of Plaza staff speak basic English. You can participate only one day or part of the day. If you are interested, contact the Society. Happi (kimono jacket) uniform and meal coupons will be supplied. **Inquiries:** Iruma International Friendship Society ☎04-2964-1111 ext. 2147 E-mail: isociety@m.ictv.ne.jp

JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES REOPEN THIS MONTH

After their summer break, the classes will resume on **September 5** for the Saturday Sangyo Bunka Center Class and on **September 2** for Wednesday Bushi Class. This is a good time to start learning Japanese! Fee is 1,500 yen for all the classes until March. Applications are being accepted at the Chiiki Shinko-ka in the City Hall. **Inquiries:** Chiiki Shinko-ka (Section for Community and Culture)

50% BONUS CITY DIGITAL GIFT CERTIFICATES COMING SOON!

The city is going to sell Iruma City Digital Gift Certificates with a 50% premium added to support local businesses and residents. Residents of Iruma City aged 12 or older can apply to purchase these certificates via the PayPay app (need to complete identity verification within the PayPay app) next month.

Value of Certificates: You can purchase a gift certificate worth **7,500 yen for 5,000 yen** (50% premium added).

Total Units to be Sold: 85,000 units.

Sales Limit: Up to **8 units per person**.

Note: In the event of high demand, a lottery may be held, which could result in the number of awarded units being lower than the number requested.

Application Period: From **October 1 (Thu)** to **October 29 (Thu)**, 2026.

Note: To apply, you must complete identity verification in the PayPay app beforehand so eligibility can be confirmed. Please check the official PayPay website for details on the identity verification process.

Sales Period: From **October 30 (Fri)** to **January 30 (Sat)** 2027.

Usage Period: From the time of purchase until **January 31 (Sun)** 2027.

Participating Stores: PayPay-affiliated stores within the city that have been designated as eligible by the City and PayPay.

Inquiries: Shoko Kanko-ka (Section for Commerce, Industry, and Tourism)



STAY ALERT! TORRENTIAL RAIN AND LANDSLIDE RISKS RISING

In recent years, there has been an increase in instances of torrential rain falling over short periods. During the flooding in Chiba last month, a Level 4 landslide warning, which means "Evacuate immediately from dangerous areas," was issued for Iruma City as well. Please check hazard maps (QR code on right) to identify any danger zones in your neighborhood.



CITY FLASH

NEW SCHOOL LUNCH CENTER IS LAUNCHING!

Since its opening in 1981, the old school lunch center has long supported the healthy growth of junior high school students and provided delicious daily meals. Now, the new facility—built to address the aging of the old building, meet seismic safety standards, and comply with the latest hygiene regulations—was completed in February, 2026. Starting in September, it will deliver safe, secure, and delicious handmade lunches to ten public junior high schools across the city, about **3,500 meals a day**.

In particular, while rice was previously supplied by an outside contractor, the new school lunch center will **cook rice on-site**, making it possible to serve delicious, freshly cooked rice. Since this reduces costs compared to outsourcing, it allows for an enriched menu and helps keep school lunch fees down.



We have also **switched our tableware from anodized aluminum to resin**. This allows us to use vessels suited to the specific menu; furthermore, because the material does not conduct heat readily and is easy to hold, the school meals can be enjoyed even more. This change also provides **an opportunity to learn about the Japanese dining custom of holding one's dishes while eating**, thereby contributing to the promotion of food education through school lunches.

To all junior high school students: enjoy your delicious school lunches featuring local produce and seasonal ingredients!

Inquiries: Gakko Kyushoku-ka (Section for School Lunch)

MANJUSHAGE FESTIVAL AT KINCHAKUDA IN HIDAKA CITY

Japan's largest field with five million red spider lilies is impressive! From September 21 (National Holiday) to October 6 (Tue), from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., the area called Kinchakuda becomes a festival field. Admission of 500 yen is



charged (Free for junior high school students and younger). Parking is limited. 15-minute walk from Koma Station on Seibu Ikebukuro Line.



Inquiries: Hidaka City ☎042-989-2111

Information Desk for Foreign Residents

Located on the second floor of the City Hall. **English: Every Tuesday and 2nd and 4th Friday (by appointment only).**
Spanish: Every Wednesday. All from 9:00 a.m. to noon.
Consultations by e-mail (i-society@city.iruma.lg.jp) are welcome.

EVENTS THIS MONTH

TAIKO DRUMS JAM SESSION

September 13 (Sun) in the grounds of the City Museum



Immerse yourself in the beat of Japanese drums under the blue sky! This annual event has attracted the people of Iruma for three decades. In addition

to the powerful stage performance, there will be many food stands, as well as workshops in which you can make and play your own drum. The event starts at 10:00 a.m. and closes at 4:00 p.m. Admission is free. Parking spaces are limited so take the Tea Road Bus or the Seibu Bus. In case of bad weather, the event will be cancelled. **Inquires:** Chiiki Shinko-ka (Section for Community & Culture) <https://www.iruma-taiko-session.com>

EXHIBITION ON NATURE

September 11 (Fri) to 13 (Sun) @ the City Museum ALIT

From 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the City Museum ALIT. With the theme of "Invasive Species in Iruma," this year's exhibition will explain the current situation regarding invasive alien species that have entered Iruma City. A tour of nature observation walk will start at 9:00 a.m. on September 12 (Sat) to see the exhibition and walk around fields and wooded areas near the Museum. Also, at 2:00 p.m. on the same day, a lecture regarding the "Callosciurus erythraeus" (Formosan squirrel)—an invasive species found in Iruma City—will be held in the museum's lecture room. The exhibition, observation walk, and lecture are all free of charge. **Inquiries:** Nogyo Shinko-ka (Section for Agricultural Promotion)



KODO EXCHANGE PERFORMANCE

To commemorate the 40th anniversary of the sister-city partnership between Iruma City and Sado City, the world-renowned taiko performing arts ensemble "Kodo" will hold a two-day performance, on September 26 and 27 (Sat & Sun) at 2:00 p.m. at the Sangyo Bunka Center. Tickets are now on sale for 4,800 yen; 25 and under 3,500 yen. No admission for children aged 4 and under. **Inquiries:** Sangyo Bunka Center.



Shimin-ka Opening on Saturdays

September 12 and 26, 9:00 a.m. to noon

Registration and certification regarding of moving-in/moving-out, juminhyo, koseki and registered seals; reports of family register-related events (birth, death, marriage, divorce and other)

This Month's Tax Payment (Due date: Sept. 30)

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

SUNDAY & 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.

Date	Internal Medicine			Surgery		
	Name of hospital	Address	Tel.	Name of hospital	Address	Tel.
Sept. 6	Seibu Iruma Byoin	Noda 3078-13	04-2932-1121	Harada Byoin	Toyooka 1-13-3	04-2962-1251
Sept. 13	Iruma Heart Byoin	Koyata 1258-1	04-2934-5050	Toyooka Seikei Geka Byoin	Toyooka 1-7-16	04-2962-8256
Sept. 20	Kaneko Byoin	Araku 680	04-2962-2204	Toyooka Daiichi Byoin	Kurosu 1369-3	04-2964-6311
Sept. 21	Kobayashi Byoin	Miyadera 2417	04-2934-5121	Harada Byoin	Toyooka 1-13-3	04-2962-1251
Sept. 22	Seibu Iruma Byoin	Noda 3078-13	04-2932-1121	Toyooka Seikei Geka Byoin	Toyooka 1-7-16	04-2962-8256
Sept. 23	Iruma Heart Byoin	Koyata 1258-1	04-2934-5050	Toyooka Daiichi Byoin	Kurosu 1369-3	04-2964-6311
Sept. 27	Kaneko Byoin	Araku 680	04-2962-2204	Harada Byoin	Toyooka 1-13-3	04-2962-1251

Saitama Emergency Medical Advice Line Service is provided 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for free of charge. Dial "#7119", then press "1" for Children's Emergency Medical Advice Line, or press "2" for adult patients. Nurses give advice on how to manage your symptoms and whether you need to see a medical professional. By press "3" you can get information on medical facilities available near you.