

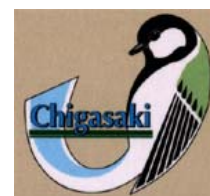
Chigasaki Breeze

Truly great friends are hard to find, difficult to leave, and impossible to forget.

2nd ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM IS COMING TO A FINAL STAGE

Since 2003, the city has been working hard to realize the planned reform of working together with the citizens. The contents of their reforms are listed as follows:

- ☆ Three points for the perception on how to tackle reform.
 - 1) Change the service from an administration-led style to a Citizen-oriented style.
 - 2) Change the office work base from the previously inherited process to the staff's assessment execution.
 - 3) Change the administration stance from "management" to "sharing of the role with citizens".
- ☆ Eight important items to proceed reform
 - 1) Thorough information disclosure
 - 2) Full recognition of the citizens' needs.
 - 3) Execution of accountability
 - 4) Introduction of the administration evaluation system
 - 5) Structuring of the city hall of "electronics"
 - 6) Introduction of the private sector's vitality and promotion of efficient administration
 - 7) Reformation of the staff's way of thinking and guiding the personnel
 - 8) Sound financial operation



The city gave a positive examination of these emphasized issues, and is now trying to set up the 3rd reform plan based on the result they achieved over the last four and half years.

ENVIRONMENT

CLEANING UP CHIGASAKI SEASHORE

The Town News of Chigasaki reported that the CHIGASAKI ROTARY CLUB worked to clean Eboshi-Iwa rock island, the symbol of Chigasaki, on June 6, and also Nishihama Prefectural Senior High School students cleaned the seashore on June 14. Each of these activities is a yearly event and the students' activity this year was the 13th time they participated.

Even though June 14 was a drizzly day, 300 students participated together with their parents and local people to pick up various kinds of litter scattered around on the beach.

The Nishihama High School is located close to the sea and students always use the beach as well as the cycling road for their club activities, so, the students voluntarily perform the beach cleanup. Mr. Nishiura, head of student council, told that they depend a lot on the mercy of the sea and so they think they have to reciprocate this.

To think of these environmental issues, such voluntary actions by students, Rotary Club members, are indispensable. Facing Sagami Bay, it would be necessary for the people of Chigasaki to understand the importance of keeping the seashore and beach as clean as possible.

How is Kanagawa prefecture involved in such activity?

About 70% of the litter found on the beach is said to be coming from the 18 rivers that flow into Sagami Bay. These rivers are also fed by 85 branch rivers.

In Kanagawa, there is an organization named Kanagawa Kaigan Bika Zaidan or Kanagawa Coastal Environmental Foundation. It was established on April 1, 1991 at Shiomidai in Chigasaki, to perform work related to the seashore together with the cities, towns, corporations and NPO groups. This organization is the only one of its kind in the country. Their work covers the area from Yokosuka to Yugawara, roughly 150km, contributing to the beautification of the shore. The foundation has cleanup events three times a year. As well as the assistance of the public, they also have heavy machinery to make broad areas of beach clean working together with people.

In Chigasaki there are 8 volunteer groups, and a total of 32 in Kanagawa who cooperate with this foundation. There also are individuals who help them, and it's been reported that volunteer participants numbered more than 66,000 in 1992, and it increased to 122,000 in 2005. Such a result was brought about by the various beautification efforts such as the ones mentioned above.

The message of the foundation is "Leave only your footprint and nothing else."