

2009 National Holidays

1/1 (Thu) New Year's Day
 1/12 (Mon) Coming-of-Age Day
 2/11 (Wed) National Foundation Day
 3/20 (Fri) Spring Equinox Day
 4/29 (Wed) The Day of Showa
 5/3 (Sun) Constitution Day
 5/4 (Mon) Green Day
 5/5 (Tue) Children's Day
 5/6 (Wed) Substitute holiday
 7/20 (Mon) Marine Day
 9/21 (Mon) Respect-for-the-Aged Day
 9/22 (Tue) National Day
 9/23 (Wed) Autumn Equinox Day
 10/12 (Mon) Sports Day
 11/3 (Tue) Culture Day
 11/23 (Mon) Labor Thanksgiving Day
 12/23 (Wed) The Emperor's Birthday

Consultation for Foreign Residents

BUNKA SUIISHIN-KA section of the city hall will be receiving phone calls from foreign residents at any time, so either interview or consultation can be arranged based on the reservation. The timing depends on the availability of interpreters but the appointment will need a week or so to be arranged. Visitors should be able to consult not only in English but also in Portuguese, Korean, and Chinese. (Tel: 0467-82-1111 ext. 3301)



A number of people are trying to get on pleasure boats which cruise between Chigasaki fishing port and Eboshi-iwa rocks about 1,800 meters off the shore of Sagami Bay taking about 40 minutes to go around. On a fine day, you could look over beautiful Mt. Fuji.

DECLARATION OF FINAL INCOME TAX RETURNS

Declaration of Final income tax returns

The time during February 16 (Mon) ~ March 16 (Mon) is the time for your final income tax returns. The person who does the refund declaration can submit the final tax return form to the tax office in January.

◆How to obtain the declaration form.

Fujisawa Tax Office is delivering the form at present.

City Resident's Tax Section, Koide Branch Office, and City Resident's Gallery will deliver the form after January 26 (Mon).

◆Acceptance at Fujisawa tax office

Day and time: Monday through Friday during February 16 ~ March 16, February 22 (Sun), and March 1 (Sun) from 9:00~17:00

Note: The parking lot is closed until the middle of April.

◆Acceptance at Chigasaki city hall

Day and time: February 16 ~ March 16 From Monday through Friday

At 8:00~ 11:30 • 13:00~16:30

Place: City hall lobby

Eligible people: Pensioners and salaried employee's expecting refunds

[Fujisawa Tax Office Tel: 0466-22-2141]

BRIEFING FOR NEW STUDYING CHILDREN AND STUDENT'S GUARDIANS

A briefing will be held for new studying children/student's guardians in fiscal 2009.

Please bring slippers, writing tools and winter clothes.

Please refrain from coming by car.

[Each school • School Affairs Section]

SUBSIDY FOR FIRE ALARM PURCHASERS

Save your life! Let's all install a fire alarm!

The Firefighting Law recently made it compulsory for all houses to install a fire alarm by May 31, 2011. The reason of the law is a number of fatal accidents by fire increasing just because of a little delay or failure to rapidly escape from fire. A fire alarm has a sensor to catch heat and smoke and then make a sound, and it takes effect at the time of emergency. In other words, if you know an outbreak of fire a few seconds earlier, you could save you and your family's life. To be in that situation, the installment of a fire alarm in the house is important and inevitable. If a fire alarm were there, the failure would have been avoided.

A fire alarm can be purchased from around ¥5,000 ~ ¥10,000 at the so-called Home Center or at stores where they sell general household appliances. And the suggestion is to choose a fire alarm with the "NS mark". If you purchase this, the city subsidizes one third of the cost or up to ¥5,000. City Hall is trying to make Chigasakai **the City of Safety and Comfort**, and this is the whole idea of the subsidy for you to install fire alarms.

Whoever is interested, please contact the Anti-Disaster section of the firefighting headquarters.

HISTORY OF CHIGASAKI

THE YANAGISHIMA HACHIMANGU SHRINE

The Yanagishima Hachimangu Shrine, a historic heritage site of Chigasaki, is located at Yanagishima 2-3-10, Chigasaki, in the south-western part of the city, and it's very close to the Koide river.

On September 1, 1923 (Taisho year 12), there occurred the Great Kanto Earthquake of which the seismic center was off Sagami Bay, and the earthquake caused a great deal of damage to this area. At that time, the population of the town of Chigasaki was about 20,000 versus the present 230,000, and not only common houses but also the buildings of facilities/institutions such as the town hall and elementary schools suffered damage. The number of houses damaged totaled 4,474, and of which the completely destroyed houses counted 2,112. There were 156 victims and 61 persons were seriously injured.

In relation with this earthquake disaster, there are 9 shrines in the city that have the monument or the steeple of memorial for the victims. They include the Mishima Shrine (Hagisono) and the Kaizenji Shrine (Chigasaki district), but the area which had the most extensive damage was the Yanagishima area. At that time, the number of households in Yanagishima was 161, and all houses were destroyed except for three.

The Yanagishima Hachimangu Shrine had been reconstructed in 1840 (Tempo year 11), and the shrine was given the cordial faith by the people of the area as Yanagishima Sohchinju (the head shrine to protect the Yanagishima area). The shrine's main building was proud and of a splendid appearance due to a number of restoration projects done afterwards. But at the Yanagishima Hachimangu Shrine, not only the main building but also the whole building were destroyed and the Torii (the gateway at the entrance to the shrine) was broken into pieces due to severe shakes by the Great Kanto Earthquake. The chief of the Ward, S. Katano, decided to reconstruct the shrine and the Torii working together with representatives of the town.

The existing Torii in front of the shrine was newly built in September, 1926 (Taisho year 15) with the efforts of the local people under the protection of a deity, and at the same time, there are 6 pieces of stone Torii, large and small, covered by Zelkova trees, which were broken down by the earthquake but were fixed and preserved jutting out of a concrete pedestal.

