Welcome to the Saitama Prefectural Government International Division Newsletter.

This newsletter is designed to help inform Saitama residents of services provided by the Saitama Prefectural Government. It also features useful information for everyday living as well as seasonal tips on places you may want to visit and enjoy with friends and family.

The International Division newsletter is delivered to Saitama residents four times a year in a mail magazine style. Featured articles are displayed in five formats: Japanese using both kanji and kana, simple Japanese in hiragana only, and translations in English, Chinese, and Korean.

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Coronavirus Hotline for Foreign Residents Now Available (24 Hours, 11 Languages)

The Coronavirus Hotline for Foreign Residents has been established for foreign residents in Saitama Prefecture in order to eliminate concerns and prevent the spread of infection in the area. It is available 24 Hours in 11 languages. Interpretation will be available when you need to contact the 'Saitama Prefecture Citizens' Support Center for COVID-19 Infection’ or the ‘Consultation Center for Persons Returning to Japan or Those Who May Have Been in Contact with New Coronavirus.' Please utilize this service if you are more comfortable speaking in a language other than Japanese.

TEL: 048-711-3025
1. Hours: 24 hours (including Saturdays, Sundays, and national holidays)

2. Available Languages: 11
   - English
   - Chinese (漢語)
   - Spanish (Español)
   - Portuguese (Português)
   - Korean (한국·조선어)
   - Tagalog (Tagalog)
   - Thai (ภาษาไทย)
   - Vietnamese (Tiếng Việt)
   - Indonesian (Bahasa Indonesia)
   - Nepali (नेपाली)
   - Simple Japanese (やさしいにほんご)

※For more information, please visit the following link:
http://sia1.jp/topics/coronahotline/

Notice from Saitama Prefecture Regarding New Coronavirus Infection-Prevention Measures

Please visit the following links for more information on the infection situation, state of emergency measures, or support initiatives in Saitama Prefecture:


◆International Division News


Saitama Prefecture has created A Guide to Living in Saitama which residents can use to easily look up information concerning daily life. It also has a list of consultation help desks and other places that can address questions and concerns. The guide can be accessed in English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Japanese.

★The most recent version of A Guide to Living in Saitama can be found at:

There is also a video on YouTube called “Let’s Live in Saitama!” This video contains a variety of useful information on life in Saitama, including what to do if you get sick or are in trouble, children’s education, calling or visiting Saitama Information and Support and other services, and visiting your local city, town, or village’s administrative offices.

★For more details, please visit the links below:
  (Available in English, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Tagalog, and Japanese)
  http://www.youtube.com/user/saitamakenkokusaika
  http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/liveinsaitama.html

Multilingual Disaster Preparedness Guide Available in 7 Languages

In coordination with NPOs experienced in providing support for foreign residents, Saitama Prefecture has published a disaster preparedness guide translated into Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, and Tagalog. Please read the guide and use it to help prepare in case of a disaster:

  http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/bosaiguide.html

Saitama Prefecture Disaster Multilingual Information Center

In the event that a disaster recognized by the Prefectural Disaster Management Headquarters occurs or is expected to occur in Saitama Prefecture, the International Division will set up a ‘Saitama Prefecture Disaster Multilingual Information Center’ in cooperation with the Saitama International Association in order to support foreign residents. The center will offer the following services:

1. Multilingual consultation
2. Translation support in response to requests from public institutions
3. Provision of multilingual information

More information can be found at the following link:
Saitama International Association Aid for Disaster: http://sia1.jp/en/international/disaster/

◆ Radio Station and Websites about Saitama Prefecture

Saitama Prefectural Government Radio Station (FM NACK5)
FM NACK5 broadcasts *Morning Square* every Monday to Friday morning from 8:15 am to 8:25 am, offering listeners good music as well as public messages on government services and events.
To access past broadcasts, you can visit http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0301/morning-square/

Learn about Saitama through Saitama Doga and Choko-Tabi Saitama!
Saitama Doga presents videos introducing the best that Saitama has to offer, from entertainment to sightseeing to tourism and more: https://www.youtube.com/user/prefsaitama

◆ Editor's Column

Two months have already passed since the new fiscal year began in April. However, this year has been vastly different from other years due to the onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

In order to prevent infection spread, schools were closed, telework was implemented, outing restrictions were imposed, and stores suspended operations. Let us all be patient for a little longer, and do our best to overcome these hard times by avoiding getting infected and spreading the infection.

As soon as this New Coronavirus situation calms down, we hope to keep everyone informed on the various projects and events planned by the International Division. We look forward to hearing your comments and feedback.

Editor (M.S.)

If there are any articles that you found interesting in the International Division Newsletter, or if you wish to suggest a topic that you would like us to feature, please send your thoughts to the Saitama Prefecture International Division via the contact details below:

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