



Seika's English Language Newsletter
No. 369 May 2026

Use Your Seika Town Regional Revitalization Gift Certificates Quickly

Usage Period: Until May 31st

In order to reduce the financial burden for families due to the rise in prices of groceries in town, 6000 yen worth of Seika town regional revitalization gift certificates that can be used at participating stores (retail & restaurant) have been distributed by utilizing the country's priority support regional grant. The period of use is until May 31st (Sun.), so please use them quickly.

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Participating Stores are indicated on this poster!

Distributed Amount: 6000 yen per 1 person (twelve 500-yen tickets)
Distribution Target: Every person who has their residence registered in Seika since Feb. 1st

Usage Period: Until May 31st (Sun.)

Participating Stores: Previously registered retail shops and restaurants within the town

Things to Note

- Remaining change will not be given.
- When the usage period passes it will become invalid.
- There will be no reissuance due to loss or damage, so please be careful when handling them.
- Resale or conversion of tickets for profit is strictly forbidden.
- Within participating stores, there are some items that do not apply to the certificate, like tradable coupons or tobacco.

Seika Town Mascot
KYOMACHI SEIKA



"Please Use the Seika Town Regional Revitalization Gift Certificates Quickly!!!"

For more Information about the Gift Certificate and about Participating Stores →



Inquiries: Seika Town Regional Revitalization Gift Certificate Executive Office TEL: 075-284-0141
Hours of Operation: Weekdays from 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays)



5/25 (Mon.)

9:45 a.m.

Start Fugenji Fureai Station

12:45 p.m. (approx.)

Goal Keihanna Plaza West Side

The "Tour of Japan (TOJ)" Kyoto Stage, one of the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI)'s officially recognized international bicycle races, will occur on May 25th.

The Tour of Japan is the largest bicycle race in the country, and is the largest stage race in the country, as the racers compete in 8 stages over the course of 8 days.

Last Year's Race



Kyoto Stage HP



Official Race HP



9:15 a.m.~1:00 p.m. Traffic Restrictions

Traffic restrictions will take place in the course and areas around it on the day of the race.

We ask for your understanding and cooperation.

Notice of Traffic Restrictions and Embarking/Disembarking Restrictions & Relocation for Certain Bus Stops

Road traffic restrictions and the accompanying restriction/relocation for embarking/disembarking at certain bus stops will occur during the time of the race. It will be inconvenience for those living in the area, but we ask for your understanding and cooperation.

→**Nara Kotsu Route Buses**

The bus stops "Hikaridai 4-chome," "Hikaridai 3-chome," and "Keihanna Plaza" for the bus heading east of Seika Odori will be unavailable for embarkation and disembarkation, so please use "Hikaridai 7-chome" or "ATR" instead. This bus stops can be used for buses heading west.

→**Seika Kururin Bus**

During the implementation time of traffic regulations, the bus will not stop at "Kashinoki-en." Also, the "Keihanna Plaza" stop for the bus heading towards Hosono Station will be relocated to the Nara Kotsu "ATR" bus stop.

→**Seika Town Demand Transportation**

On the day of the race, there may be arrival time delays due to traffic restrictions.

*It will not stop at "Kashinoki-en","Higashibataguchi","Higashibata Assembly Hall","Higashibata Kitanotani","Higashibata Bochimae", and "Toridaniike" during the enacted traffic restriction time.

Inquiries: Local Autonomy Promotion Division Regional Cooperation Section TEL: 95-1934

An Extra Small Seika Trip "TOJ Kyoto" Encouragement Tour

This is fun! Let's go around the course & participate in a close-up encouragement tour. Experience the moments of emotion as we walk from Higashibata to the goal!

Date & Time: 5/25 (Mon.) Meet time: 8:45 a.m. [in front of Keihanna Plaza East Entrance (Vierra Town Side) (Nara Kotsu Bus Stop "ATR")] End time: 12:30 p.m. in front of Keihanna Plaza *Will occur if light rain (will be postponed if severe weather alert is announced).

Course: Keihanna Plaza → ①Toridaniike Entrance/Ridge Climbing Trail→②Higashibata Hairpin Curve→③S Curve in front of Higashibata Assembly Hall→④in front of Genki Juku→⑤Higashibata Akamizu crosswalk corner curve→⑥Higashibata Kitanozoki intersection→⑦Goal/ in front of Keihanna Plaza (dispersal) = around 5 kilometers *due to the circumstances of the day, the viewing spots and information route may change.

Capacity: 30 People

Items to Bring: Drinks, Rain Gear, Plastic Sheet, etc.

Fee: 500 yen (Elementary School Students: 100 yen/ free for preschool children) comes with commemorative can badge

How to Apply: Contact via phone or email until the day before at the following

Inquiries: NPO Seika Town Furusato Guide Association TEL: 080-9980-0004✉furusato_seika@yahoo.co.jp



Light Vehicle Tax

The light vehicle tax notice (olive-colored envelope) for the 2026 fiscal year has been sent to taxpayers.* If it has not been delivered by May 15th, please contact the Taxation Division Residence Tax Section. If there are no previous correspondence and the tax is not paid by the deadline, it will be subject to demand.**Please do a change of address notification if you have moved within or outside of the town, or declare a tax agent if you are staying overseas during the time of the taxation deadline.

*Taxes are imposed on owners (as of April 1st) of motorized bikes, light vehicles, small special vehicles as well as two-wheeled small light vehicles. In addition, the purchaser is the owner of light vehicles subject to sales with retention of title.

**For instances in which the documents were sent via standard mail (regular mail) or correspondence delivery, it will be assumed delivered at the time it is normally received, and as long as it is not returned to the town hall, it will be treated as delivered to the recipient (Article 20, Paragraph 4 of the Local Tax Act).

Vehicle Tax Payment is Until June 1

The deadline for vehicle tax payments is until June 1st. Not only can you make payments at financial institutions or convenience stores, but cashless payments via a smartphone are also possible. For more information, check the Kyoto Prefecture homepage.

Inquiries: Kyoto Prefecture Yamashiro Regional Promotion Bureau Yamashiro Minami Prefectural Tax Branch Office TEL: 72-0231

Reduction & Exemption Application for Light Vehicle Tax

There may be cases where those with disabilities, social welfare service corporations, etc. can receive a reduction (exemption) for light vehicle tax.

Subjects of Reduction & Exemption

Reduction & Exemption of Light Vehicle Tax for Persons with Disabilities

If the disabled person themselves is the taxpayer for the light vehicle tax, they can receive a reduction/exemption.* However, it is required that the person be a disabled person operating a light vehicle, motorbike, etc. and/or a person with whom they share finances with that uses more than 70% of the vehicle for the disabled person's commute to school, medical appointments, or day programs. Reductions & exemptions are limited to 1 vehicle per disabled person, and there can be no duplicates of automobile tax exemptions for things like standard-sized vehicles. Also, there are cases in which reductions & exemptions cannot be received due to the degree of disability.

Structural Reduction & Exemption

Reductions & exemptions can be received in cases which the light vehicle, etc.'s structural form is built for the physically disabled. An 8-numbered license plate and "vehicle for moving wheelchair," etc. written in the "vehicle form" column on the certificate of vehicle inspection is required. Even if it is not an 8-numbered plate, if you explain in the additional notes column of the vehicle inspection certificate that the vehicle is fitted with wheelchair anchoring devices, etc. for the use of disabled persons, you can receive tax exemptions.

Public Interest Reduction & Exemption

Reductions and exemptions may be received for cases in which social welfare service corporations are directly using the light vehicles, etc. they own for social welfare services and/or social welfare councils that are social welfare corporations who are directly using the light vehicles they own for 70% or more for social welfare activities.

Required Documents

Light Vehicle Tax Exemptions/Reductions for the Disabled

- 2026 fiscal year light vehicle tax statement of payment (before payments are made) or payment notification
- Physical Disability Certificate/Intellectual Disability Certificate (Copies not accepted)
- Driver's license
- The taxpayer's national identification number (My Number) and documents for personal identification**
- Vehicle Inspection Certificate Record (copies not accepted)

*Items that were issued before April 1st, 2026

**Not required for motorbikes 125cc or lower, Light Motor Vehicle Notification Certificate required for motorbikes 126cc-250cc or lower.

Structural Reduction/Exemption

- 2026 fiscal year light vehicle tax statement of payment (before payments are made) or payment notification
- Vehicle Inspection Certificate Record (copies not accepted)

Public Interest Reduction/Exemption

For more information, please consult the taxation division.

Application Period/Method

Please come to the Taxation Division (2nd floor) before June 1st (Mon.)*** on a weekday with the necessary documents (fax not accepted). The reception time is 8:30 a.m.-noon and 1:00-5:15 p.m. Applications done by a tax agent require the presentation of a Power of Attorney and documents confirming the identity of the tax agent along with the documents listed above.

* It is possible for the person who lives with a disabled person who falls under Physical Disability Rank 1 or 2 and shares finances together to be a taxpayer.

**The My Number Card can be used as one document confirming the national identification number as well as a personal identification document. "National Identification Number Confirmation Documents" are the My Number Card, notification card, etc. "Personal Identification Documents" are a My Number Card, Driver's License, etc. (2 documents must be presented if they do not have a picture of your face on them.

*** Due to processing procedures, funds may be debited from your account after you submit your application, but the amount will be refunded at a later date if your application is approved.

Inquiries: Taxation Division Residence Tax Section TEL:95-1916



Let's learn how to make a "**Green Asparagus and Sakura Shrimp Stir-Fry**" with this recipe from Seika Town Diet Improvement Association Asunaro-kai!



Ingredients (2 Servings)

10g Sakura Shrimp 100g Green Asparagus 1/5(20g) Green Onion
3g Ginger 1/2tbsp(6g) Oil 1tbsp(15g) Cooking Sake A Pinch of Salt

Instructions

- 1) Peel the skin of the part close to the base of the green asparagus, boil, and cut into 3cm pieces.
- 2) Finely cut the green onions and ginger each.
- 3) Add and heat the oil in a fry pan, and once the green onion and ginger begin to smell, add the sakura shrimp and green asparagus and stir fry. Add the salt and sake, stir-frying until the moisture disappears.

Nutrition Information (per serving)

Calories	120 kcal	Calcium	226 mg
Protein	9.5 grams	Dietary Fiber	2.4 grams
Fat	6.6 grams	Sodium	0.3 grams

Nutrition Education Tip No. 71

"About the Nutrients in Green Asparagus"

Green asparagus contains large amounts of aspartic acid, which has a fatigue recovery effect. Aspartic acid also has a diuretic effect and a synergistic effect with potassium that supports the balance of liquids in your body. Because the soft tips are the point of growth, they contain Rutin, which is highly nutritional and strengthens blood vessels. Furthermore, it is a vegetable that balances the functionality composition of the often included Vitamin K, which supports bone health and folic acid, which prevents anemia.



Healthy Diet, Healthy You

What is a "Healthy Diet, Healthy You" Participating Store?

Restaurants participating in the Healthy Diet, Healthy You project serve dishes that use plenty of vegetables and are low in sodium, disclose calorie information, and food allergy information for their entrees, and actively participate in improving the health of people living in Kyoto Prefecture. Participating restaurants have this purple sign posted somewhere in their establishment, and either have 3 or more items that are either full of vegetables, low in sodium, or have calorie information, as well as display food allergy information of the menu.



Participating Store

Oriental Bakery

This store offers a menu displaying nutrition facts and lists of the eight most common allergens are contained in each product.

Address: Seikadai 9-chome 1-17

Tel: 98-6228

Cafe Hours: 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Days Closed: Open All Year Round (Closing periods during Obon and End-of-Year/New Year)

Please note that business hours are subject to change and there maybe be temporary closures as well. For more information about hours and dates of operation, please contact the restaurant.

[Inquiries] Seika 365 Office (Health Promotion Division/Elderly Welfare Division/National Health Insurance and Medical Services Division/Lifelong Learning Division/Planning and Coordinating Division) TEL: 95-1905 (Health Promotion Division)



Town Events



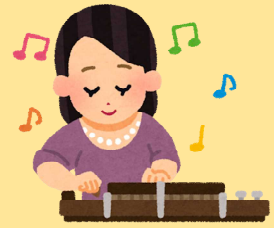
Recital & Afternoon Live

Date & Time: 5/24 (Sun.) 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. (venue opens at 1:00 p.m.)

Place: Kizugawa City Central Community Center "Izumi Hall"

Event Details: A group and ensemble performance of the Taisho koto.

Inquiries: Kindenryu Gakuyu TEL: 090-8380-4805 (Murakami)



Morityu De Marche

Date & Time: 5/30 (Sat.) 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Place: Morityu Construction Landscaping Ltd. (within the property)

Event Details: A gathering of workshops, delicious food, a hands-on experience booth by a civilian fire department, and more! Please come and have a fun time that will widen your community circle.

Inquiries: Morityu Construction Landscaping Ltd. - Contact via Instagram



Morityu Construction
Landscaping Instagram

Game Night

~Get Together while Playing Card Games! Cultural Exchange Salon~

Date & Time: 6/7 (Sun.) 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Place: Seika Hall (2F of Seika Town Hall)

Event Details: Enjoy a variety of games at this American "Game Night." There's so many chances to get hyped up with your friends, family, or even by yourself through popular American games as well as games famous throughout the world! Let's play games together?

Games: Dutch Blitz, Uno, Spoons, Headbandz, Jenga, and more!

*During the event, come and go as you please.

Inquiries: Planning and Coordinating Division PR Section TEL: 95-1900



"6th Sports Day" Seika Global Net Cultural Exchange Event

Date & Time: 6/14 (Sun.) 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Place: Mukunoki Center Arena

Capacity: First 40 People (4th year elementary school children and younger must be accompanied by a guardian.)

Event Details: An event where, from children to adults and foreigners included, can overcome the language and age barrier and lightheartedly and enjoyably connect with others through foreign and Japanese games and sports! Please participate even as a family!

How to Apply: Apply using the "Sports Day Application Form" from the Seika Global Net Web page.

Inquiries: Seika Global Net ✉seikaglobalnet@gmail.com



Keihanna Commemorative Park Suikei-en Information

Park Entrance Fee: Adult: 220 yen, Elementary/Middle School Students & Those aged 65 yrs. or older 110 yen

*Entrance free when a disability booklet or Kyoto Child Rearing Support Passport is presented, discounts for groups of 25 or more.

Park Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Please check the park web page for possible event hosting.

Inquiries: Keihanna Commemorative Park Management Office TEL:93-1200 FAX:93-2688





Weekend Appointments for My Number-Related Matters

Appointments on the following days are available for My Number Card issuance, application, and digital certificate renewals.

Dates: 5/24 (Sun.) & 6/20 (Sat.)

Possible Reservation Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

※An appointment needs to be made in advance. (No same-day reservations)

※Reservations can be made 45 days prior and up until the day the town hall is open before the desired day.

- **Applications & Renewals** → Please reserve by phone.
- **Reservation for Receiving Card** → After receiving and preparing your My Number Card Postcard, please make a reservation online or by phone.

※Renewals for digital certificates can be made 3 months prior to the expiration date.



Appointments to receive your card can be made here

Have you Confirmed the Furigana of your Name Printed on the Family Register?

Due to revisions of Family Registry Laws in 2025, a "Notification of the Furigana Printed on a Family Registry" will be sent in accordance with the addition of furigana to legal names as a stated item on family registries. If the furigana on the notification is a different reading than the one you normally use, a notification of the correct furigana is required before the deadline. Please confirm the contents of the notification once more (notification not required if the furigana is correct).

Notification Deadline: 5/25 (Mon.) (until 5:00 p.m. for online notifications)

Those who have a My Number Card can confirm the furigana on the My Number Portal. In addition, if you do not submit a notification, the notified furigana will be added to the family registry from 5/26 (Tues.) hereafter.



More Information Here

Pick up your My Number Card in a Timely Manner!

After you receive the My Number Card issuance notification, we request that those who have yet to come and receive their card please quickly make a reservation to do so. If a certain period of time passes before you pick it up, you will be re-notified, but cards that have not been picked up for around 3 months after the re-notification will be disposed. If you wish to have a previously disposed of My Number Card issued, re-application procedures are required, so please keep that in mind.

Direct inquiries to: Family Register and Section of the Service Counter Division (Sougoumadoguchi-ka Koseki Jumin- Gakari) TEL: 95-1915

Helpful Information for Disaster Prevention

For those wishing to sign up for the disaster prevention email, please use the QR codes below (offered in multiple languages)

Japanese

English

Vietnamese

Portuguese

Korean

Chinese (Traditional)

Chinese (Simplified)



Inquiries Crisis Management Office Crisis Management Section TEL:95-1928

Seika Global Net Japanese Learning Support

Would you like to study Japanese in a fun way? You can also talk about your living situation in Japan and experience different aspects of Japanese culture while making friends. Children can participate in the morning class. If you would like to join one of the classes, please scan the QR code and fill out the "contact form".

For those interested, please use this QR code



Classes

◆ **Japanese Learning Room**

Tuesday: 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m.

◆ **Japanese Class**

Tuesday: 7:00 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Location: Seika Town Hall Exchange Hall, etc.

Fee: ¥1000 for 6 months

For more information, please scan the QR code to the right.





Communicating Through Sign Language

The "Seika Town Ordinance Concerning the Promotion of Sign Language and the Use of Diverse Communication Methods Tailored to the Characteristics of Disabilities" was established in April 2026. Ordinance Nickname: Expressing Feelings, Connecting the Future - Seika Town Sign Language & Diverse Communication Ordinance



Handmade and homegrown food items (bread, cookies, vegetables, etc.) that disabled people have poured their heart into making at local disabled facilities is sold in the town to promote the support of those with disabilities.

Date & Time: Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. -

Place: Town Hall Exchange Space in front of the Library (2F)

Please come!

Spread, to be Spread



Put both hands together with the back facing up and move arms diagonally forward at the same time as you spread out your fingers.

Regulations



Open your left hand in front of your chest, make a circle with the thumb and pointer finger of your right hand, place it in front of the back of the left hand, and lower it down.



Previously printed sign language is currently being introduced on the homepage.

Inquiries: Public Welfare Division Inclusive Society Section TEL: 95-1904

Seika Town Facility Schedules

Soraku Emergency Medical Clinic Schedule

Date	Specialty	Date	Specialty
5/3 (Hol./Sun.)	Internal Medicine	5/17 (Sun.)	Internal Medicine
5/4 (Hol./Mon.)	Internal Medicine	5/24 (Sun.)	Internal Medicine, Pediatrics
5/5 (Hol./Tues.)	Internal Medicine	5/31 (Sun.)	Internal Medicine
5/6 (Hol./Wed.)	Internal Medicine	6/7 (Sun.)	Internal Medicine
5/10 (Sun.)	Internal Medicine, Pediatrics		

*Please call prior to visiting the Soraku Emergency Medical Clinic TEL:(0774-73-9988)

About the Temporary Closure of Uchikoshidai Grounds/Tennis Court

In conjunction with the maintenance activities of the Culture/Sport Activity Base (disaster relief support facility) in Uchikoshidai, the Uchikoshidai grounds and tennis court will be temporarily closed according to the following below. This will be terribly inconvenient for those using it, but we ask for your understanding and cooperation.

Uchikoshidai Tennis Court

Period of Closure: About 1 year after 4/2026 (Plan)
* Usage of the nighttime lighting will be unavailable for about a year after 4/2027

Uchikoshidai Grounds

Period of Closure: About 2 years after 4/2026 (Plan)

Inquiries: Lifelong Learning Division Public Physical Education Section TEL:95-1907

Mukunoki Center

Date	Time	Details
5/13 (Wed.)	-	Closed
5/20 (Wed.)	15:00 - 17:00	Table Tennis Day (Arena General Opening)
5/24 (Sun.)	9:00 - 12:00	Hohoemi Sports Hiroba (Arena General Opening)
5/27 (Wed.)	-	Closed
6/3 (Wed.)	15:00 - 17:00	Table Tennis Day (Arena General Opening)



50th Medieval Fair

Norman's 50th Medieval Fair occurred April 10-12th. This festival takes attendees back to the medieval period, where large activities occur each year including artisan goods, food, performances and more. Because it was the 50th anniversary, there were more activities and vendors than in previous years as well as special performances celebrating the milestone.

Attendees could enjoy music, drama, comedy, and acrobatic performances as well as hands-on workshops like woodblock art and more. There were also presentations done by Oklahoma University professors and employees. The Medieval Fair is one of Norman's unique festivals, and everyone, from children to the elderly, could enjoy it the fullest.



Source: OU Daily

About Our Sister City- Norman, Oklahoma

Seika Town has maintained a sister city relationship with Norman, a city in Oklahoma, USA, since 2005, and a friendly relationship through Kyoto Prefecture's sister state connection since 1985. The two municipalities work together to promote international exchange and cultural understanding to create more globally-minded communities.

Seika Town Office

Planning and Coordination Division

Kyoto-fu, Sōraku-gun, Seika-cho
Minami-Inayazuma, Kitajiri 70

TEL: 0774-95-1900
FAX: 0774-95-3971
EMAIL: cir@town.seika.lg.jp

What to do if...

You have a question about something in Ichigo...

Call the Coordinator for International Relations at Seika Town Office if you have a question about any of the content featured in Ichigo. Also, if you know someone in Seika that would like to receive Ichigo in the mail, please contact us!

You have a problem with life in Japan...

If you have any questions or problems concerning life in Japan not related to an article in Ichigo, please contact the Coordinator for International Relations at Seika Town Office.

TEL: 0774-95-1900 FAX: 0774-95-3971 EMAIL: cir@town.seika.lg.jp or kikaku@town.seika.lg.jp (Planning and Coordinating Division)

Kyoto Prefecture Multilingual Daily Life Consultation Service

If you have any questions about housing, work, government processes, health, or any other aspects of daily life, try contacting the Kyoto Prefectural International Center (Kyoto-shi Minami-ku Higashikujo Shimotono Dacho 70 Kyoto Prefectural Exchange Plaza (Kyoto Terra) Third Floor East Wing). Consultations can be made in English, Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and 15 other languages. TEL: 075-681-4800 Homepage: <https://kpic.or.jp>

Find us Online!

Town Web site



Facebook



Kyoto CIR Blog



Kyoto CIR Instagram



Seika Town Disaster Prevention & Health Center "Mirappu" Completion Ceremony

"Mirappu," the base for disaster prevention, health, and child rearing support, has been completed with the mindset of "I want to face the future and improve my health."

The facility supports a safe and stress-free life for residents from both sides of disaster prevention and health. During the time of a disaster, it will take on the role as a headquarter for health preservation, and will serve as accompanying support during pregnancy periods until the child rearing period as well as support adult health during usual times. The completion ceremony consisted of the ceremony along with a tour of the facility.

