

Public Relations Kyotango Magazine– April 2022

Disaster Prevention

Flooding/Landslide Disaster Hazard Map

Check Around You Before Disaster Strikes



The Kyotango City Flood and Landside Disaster Hazard Map, which was delivered to each household in March, shows the areas that are potentially at risk during a disaster, evacuation sites, and disaster preparedness facilities. The map is based off the Flood Area Map* currently published by Kyoto Prefecture.

Please take this opportunity to assess the natural disaster risk in the area around your home, locate and secure nearby evacuation sites, and educate yourself about how to prepare for a disaster.

**The map shows the maximum estimated area at risk in the event a large-scale rainstorm (happens approximately once in a thousand years) floods the rivers in Kyoto Prefecture.*

Let's Open Up the Hazard Map!

The new hazard map is more compact! Before, it was a B1 (A5 when folded) size, but now its A1 (A4 when folded).



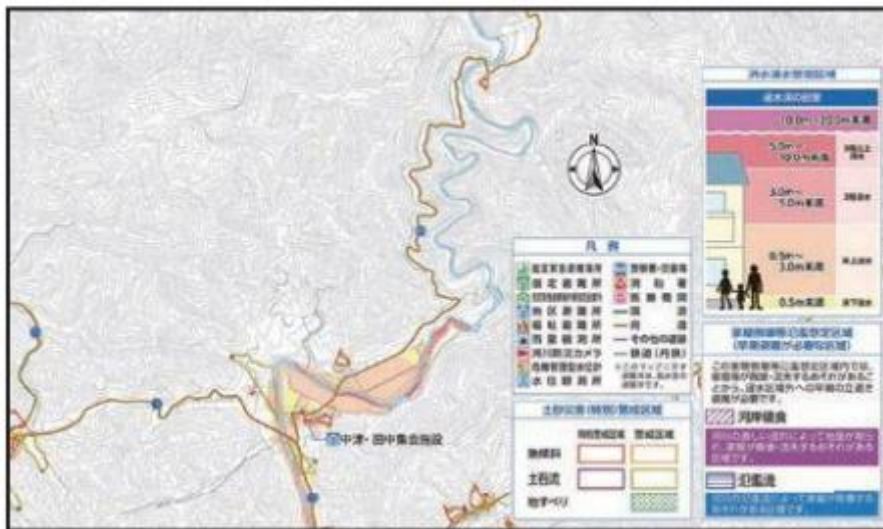
More details on the city's website:



By the General Affairs Section TEL 0772-69-0140

On the Map Side

Areas with potential flood and landslide risk (and other natural disaster risk), as well as evacuation sites are shown on the map.



On the Information Side

Tips and points of caution before and during times of emergency or evacuation are written on this side.

Write down what actions you should take on the “My Timeline” section in response to the different advisory levels.



Safety

Special Safety Measures Communication Meeting over Letters and the U.S. Military's Move into On-base Housing

A special Communications Meeting over letters between Kyotango City and Kyogamisaki Communications Site was held on January 27th about the prevention of the novel coronavirus.

At the meeting, the City asked for information about how the base was addressing the personnel who had contracted the novel coronavirus since January 5th, and what precautions the base was taking to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus. The City also requested the base to be thorough in their preventative measures.

U.S. Military's Steps to Address New Coronavirus Cases and Prevent the Spread

The Kinki-Chubu Defense Bureau reported that since cases of the novel coronavirus within U.S. Military personnel were confirmed on January 5th, the base has administered PCR tests to all individuals who possibly had close contact with the infected persons. In addition, the Bureau did not confirm any possible channel of transmission to the general public, including from the Japanese employees who work on the base. Furthermore, all new military personnel who had entered Japan were tested and quarantined for a period of time before coming to Kyotango. None of the personnel who tested positive were found to be among the new arrivals.

The U.S. Army Japan enforced restrictions from January 10th to the 31st on non-essential excursions and late-night curfews, as well as proper mask-wearing protocol inside and outside of the base for all personnel, which includes personnel at the Communications Site. In addition, the US Army also reported that military personnel who did not meet the requirements to receive a PCR test from a medical facility would voluntarily take PCR tests and confirmed negative status.

The City has strongly requested that both the U.S. Military (upon the responsibility of the Defense Bureau) and the Japanese people should both be equally thorough in their precautions and prevention against COVID-19, and take the proper measures against the spread of the virus by sharing information and cooperating closely with the Kyoto Prefecture Health Bureau.

Moving into On-base Housing

The soldiers of the Kyogamisaki Communication Site have finished moving into the on-base housing facilities from the apartments within the City at the beginning of

February.

New Paternity Leave System begins April 1st!

An Easier Way for Men or Business Owners Who Want to be More Involved at Home and Raising Children

The Childcare and Caretaker Leave Act was revised in June of last year, and beginning on April 1st, the creation of a system for a society where men and women can both balance priorities at work and at home will initiate through a gradual process.

By establishing paternity leave systems and work environments that are able to support their employees while on childcare leave, we, as a society, can move forward to realize a world where many different ways of raising a family exists.



What is the Childcare Leave System (*iku-kyuu*)?



- A parent can apply for and receive leave until the child is 12 months old (in specific cases, paid leave can be offered up to two years of age). In the event both parents apply for paid leave, they can receive up to a year of leave until the child is 14 months old.
- A parent can receive time for leave even if there are family members living with the parent to take care of the child, or if the child is adopted.

Main Points of Revision

1. Obligatory Measures for a Supportive Work Environment, Establishing Common Knowledge among Individual Persons, and Confirmation of Personal Intentions (Beginning April 1st)
 - Business owners must establish common knowledge about the childcare leave system and set up consultation services. They must also confirm with employees who have applied for spouse's upcoming childbirth about their intention to receive paid leave such as spouse's upcoming childbirth.
2. Easing Requirements on taking Childcare/Caretaker Leave for Contracted Employees
 - If there is no specified end date for the contract at the time the employee requests leave, then by principle, the employee can receive paid leave.

3. Establishment of Post-birth Paternity Leave (Childbirth Care Leave) (Beginning October 1st)
 - In principle, if the employee applies for leave at least two weeks prior, they may receive up to four weeks of leave within the first eight weeks after the child is born (split leave is also possible). Upon the consent of the employee, working while on leave is also permitted.
4. Splitting Up Childcare Leave (Beginning October 1st)
 - Childcare leave can be split up into two individual leaves.
5. Obligation to Publicly Report Childcare Leave Situation (Implementation begins April 1st, 2023)
 - Standard companies must report how much childcare leave is being taken by their employees once a year.

For more detailed information about the system, scan here:



Pros for Paternity Leave!

See How Quickly your Child Grows, Up Close

A child grows up in a blink of an eye. When your child is young, you can see their every little change, from the expressions they form to how big they grow.

This period is also a perfect opportunity to think about your life together with your partner and what your family looks like, and how to balance your career and home.



Improve your Career, Housework, and Childcare Skills by Looking After your Child

Through managing your time between household chores and childcare, you can become a master at planning.

Also, by splitting roles between you and your partner and caring for your child who still cannot speak, you can improve

on your communication and other skills which will help you to support your colleagues even after you return to your job.

Plus, the housework and childcare skills you develop over your period of leave are linked to maintaining a happy life and household into the future.

Maintain a Better Romantic Relationship between You and your Spouse

After marriage, your spouse's love and affection is directed towards you. However, after childbirth, your child will be their top priority, and their love and affection for you may not be as fervent. Soon afterwards, there are usually two polarizing trends: one that gradually restores their romantic relationship, and another that continues to grow more and more distant. During the troublesome infant stage, there was a trend where women who responded that they raised the baby together with their husband saw their love for their husband recover, while women who responded that they raised the baby by themselves reported their affection for their husband grew cooler.

Different Models for taking Paternity Leave

First week after Childbirth

On the days Mommy's out, it's Daddy's turn to shine! Especially if you have an older child, it's a good chance to get them involved too!

First Month after Leaving the Hospital

Mommy's recovery comes first. Let's build up experience on child-rearing together with Mommy!

First Month after Returning to Work

The period when you go back to work and send your child to nursery school for the first time is a lot. Work together with Mommy whenever there's an emergency call from the school!



At the Pre-Daddy & Pre-Mommy School (Parenting Class) and the Daddy & Baby Salon, on top of experiencing what childcare is like and having a chance to care for babies, you can also have a chance to talk with parents (or soon-to-be)! Let's open up and talk with other dads about working and paternity leave!

By the Parenting Comprehensive Support Center Hagu-hagu TEL 0772-69-0370

Friend us on LINE for resources on Parenting:



Copays for Older Senior Citizen (Seniors 75 years and older) Medical Care will Change on October 1st!

Beginning October 1st, those who are earning over a designated amount (see below criteria) and are insured under the Medical Care System for Older Senior Citizens (excluding those currently earning taxable income) will have to pay from 10% to 20% of the costs out-of-pocket.



Until Sept. 30 th , 2022		After Oct. 1 st , 2022	
Classification	Medical Fee Copay	Classification	Medical Fee Copay
Active Income Earners	30%	Active Income Earner	30%
General Income Earners	10%	Those who earn above the designated amount	20%
		General Income Earners	10%

Criteria for the 20% Copay

For those insured under the Medical Care System for Older Senior Citizens, your copay is determined based on your annual taxable income and pension payments by household.

[Income Criteria] If your taxable income is between ¥280K and ¥1.45M, confirm the amount of pension payments + expendable income from business

revenue/employment wages as following.

- Household comprises of one senior citizen 75 years and older (single-person household) and amount received from pension payments + total expendable income from business revenue/employment wages are above ¥2 million.
- Household comprises of two or more senior citizens 75 years and older (multi-person household) and amount received from pension payments + total expendable income from business revenue/employment wages are above than ¥3.2 million.

Measures of Accommodation

For one month of outpatient care, those who qualify for 20% copay will have a maximum limit of ¥3,000 in additional out-of-pocket expenses for three years until September 30th, 2025 (not applicable for hospitalization fees). For those who will need a refund when these measures are implemented, the amount will be reimbursed in your registered bank account at a later date.

Warning!

- The Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare, or any local authority will **never** ask for your bank account information via phone call nor house visit, nor will they ever ask to for your ATM card or bank book.
- You will **never** be asked to make a transfer through an ATM.
- ◆ **If you ever receive a suspicious call, please contact the closest police station or police consultation hotline (#9110), or the Consumer Center (188).**

Documents will **always** be sent by mail.

For more about the System:

Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare Call Center

TEL 0120-002-719

Other Questions:

Kyoto Prefectural Association of Medical Care Services for Older Senior Citizens

TEL 075-344-1202

Insurance Service Section TEL 0772-69-0220



About the Novel Coronavirus Vaccine (as of March 15th)

Vaccinations for Children

Children ages 5~11 years old are now eligible to receive the vaccine. Children can now receive the Pfizer vaccine, and after three weeks, they can receive their second dose. The Vaccination Ticket required for the vaccination appointment has already been sent out to all eligible people. Please reserve for an appointment via the designated website or LINE page, or by phone to the Call Center.

***Children who turn five years of age after March will have their Vaccination Ticket sent the month after their birthdate. Ex.) April 10th → Vaccination Ticket in May**

According to the Preventative Vaccination Law, there is no obligation to immunize children. Please discuss as a family about the effects of the vaccine and the side effects before making the decision to vaccinate to your children.

***Please read the Notice Regarding the Novel Coronavirus Vaccine by the Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare enclosed with your Vaccination Ticket thoroughly and give careful consideration whether or not to get the vaccine.**

FAQ about the Vaccine for Children

(from the Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare's website)

Q Why is the Vaccination for children from 5~11 necessary?

A Medium to severe cases of the novel coronavirus have been confirmed in children. Especially if they have pre-existing conditions, there is a high risk that their symptoms will become serious.

*For other FAQs, please go to the MHLW website, or take a look at their informative guide.

Notice to Anyone turning 12 years old

If your first vaccination is after the day before you turn 12 years old, the vaccination site and vaccine used will be different.

Ex) Your birthday is March 31st, 2010. Before March 29th, 2022, you will receive the vaccine for children 5~11 years old. March 30th and after, you



will receive the vaccine for children 12 years and older.

About the Booster Shot

We are accepting appointments for anyone who has received their second dose over six months ago.

Ex) Received second dose on **October 29th, 2021** → Eligible for booster after **April 29th, 2022**

*The Notice about the Booster Vaccine (3rd Vaccination) sent by the City originally states that one is eligible after seven months, but afterwards, the National Government designated that anyone beyond six months since their second dose may get the vaccine.

The Vaccination Ticket needed for your vaccine appointment will be delivered two weeks before the day you become eligible for the booster vaccine. Once you receive your Vaccination Ticket, please make an appointment via the designated website online or through LINE, or make a call to the Call Center.

*Please contact the Call Center if you need your Vaccination Ticket earlier.

Vaccination Sites outside of Kyotango City

Japan Self-Defense Forces Osaka Mass Vaccination Site

Call Center

TEL 0120-296-567

More details here:



Kyoto Prefecture Vaccination Site Appointment/Consultation

Call Center

TEL 0570-030-280

More details here:



Now Accepting Registrations for Surplus “Mottainai” Vaccines

In case there are extra vaccines due to canceled appointments, people who have registered for “mottainai” vaccinations can receive their vaccine shot. You can sign up with your **Vaccination Ticket number, name, the date of your 2nd dose, and phone number**. Anyone with a Vaccination Ticket from the City can register. Your cooperation helps prevent wasted vaccines, as well as speeding up your wait to get a vaccine. Please register.

By the Novel Coronavirus Vaccination Call Center TEL 0772-66-3226

(Open 9AM~5PM, Closed on holidays)

The Kyoto Prefectural Government’s website has a list of medical facilities where you can get a diagnosis in case you develop fever-like symptoms. More details here:



--- In the event you have symptoms like sore throat, runny nose, or fever ---

- 1) Avoid going outdoors or call your primary/closest medical facility.
- 2) If it is afterhours or a holiday, please call the Kyoto Novel Coronavirus Medical Consultation Center TEL 075-414-5487 (24/7, 365 days a year)

Let’s Learn How to Throw Away our Trash

How to throw away Hazardous Waste & Raw Garbage



Hazardous Waste: Dangerous when Thrown Away Improperly

When hazardous waste is not properly disposed of, the waste can become the cause of many dangerous situations such as fires resulting from ruptures and explosions, and pollution and health risks due to hazardous chemicals leaking into the



environment. Furthermore, when hazardous waste is thrown out with non-burnable trash, the risk only increases because the disposal methods are different. Please make sure you know how to correctly dispose of hazardous waste and properly separate it out.

- **At risk of rupture and explosion** > Lithium ion batteries, spray cans, gas canisters, etc.
- **At risk of environmental pollution/harm to health** > Batteries containing mercury (coin batteries), thermometers, fluorescent lights, etc.

Batteries

- **Manganese batteries/Alkaline batteries, Coin batteries, Lithium primary batteries** > **Hazardous Waste**

Lithium primary batteries are single-use batteries

(Lithium ion batteries are a different type)

- **Cellphone batteries/Lithium Ion Batteries** > **Recyclable**

Drop off at the recycling box at any cooperating store (electronics store, mobile phone retailer, etc.)

- **Symbols for Recyclable Batteries** >



- **Large Batteries (i.e car batteries)** > **Retailer/Distributor**

City facilities do not accept these kinds of batteries.

Light Bulbs

- **Fluorescent bulbs (Circular/Tube/Bulb-shaped)** > **Hazardous Waste**
- **LED/Incandescent/glow starters** > **Non-burnable Trash**

Thermometers

- **Thermometers containing Mercury** > **Hazardous Waste**
- **Digital Thermometers** > **Small Household Appliance**

(Remove all batteries)

Spray Cans/Gas Canisters

- **Spray Cans, Propane Canisters > Empty Cans** (cans for hairspray, anti-perspirants, bug-killers, etc.)
- **Spray Paint Cans > Non-burnable Trash** (Shake the can and check all contents have been emptied)

Before throwing out the cans, make sure to let out all the air and punch a hole in the can in a well-ventilated outdoor area away from any fire source.

Less Trash if we Dry our Raw Garbage

Approximately 80% of our raw garbage is water moisture.



As raw garbage contains a lot of water, the more garbage that accumulates, the harder it is to burn. At the Mineyama Clean Center, a lot of energy is used up to burn garbage with a lot of moisture. By drying out our trash, not only can we reduce the amount of trash we throw away, we can also reduce the amount of carbon dioxide released into the air when we burn the trash and help prevent global warming. In addition, when garbage is dry, it does not smell as foul.

When your trash is lighter, the garbage trucks don't have to use so much fuel! It's eco-friendly!

Pros to drying out your trash

- Reduce the amount of trash
- Reduce foul smells from trash
- Reduce carbon dioxide emissions when burning trash

We're looking for Ideas!

If you have any ideas for plans to reduce trash or creative recipes to reduce food loss, please send them our way!

[Sign-up form here:](#)



By the Life and Environment Section TEL 0772-69-0240

Gio-topics

Rediscover the Charm of the Sanin Kaigan UNESCO Global Geopark!

The Sanin Kaigan Geopark was designated as a UNESCO Global Geopark eleven years ago. Here are some seasonal recommendations for you to rediscover and enjoy the charm of the Sanin coastline.



Kotohikihama - the Singing Sands preserved by nature and the power of people

The singing sands cannot sing if even the tiniest impurity gets into the sand. In Japan, the beaches that were once singing sand beaches have disappeared because of changes in the environment. Kotohikihama is one of the few beaches in Japan that still remains a singing sand beach.

Kotohikihama is also the country's first beach to implement a no-smoking policy; on a daily basis, volunteers and local residents clean up trash that wash up on the beach, preserving its beautiful sound.

The singing sands teach us it is up to humanity to destroy or protect the natural environment.

Go to Kotohikihama on a Bright Spring Day!

Kotohikihama's singing sand is mostly made up of a mineral called quartz. The grains of quartz are tumbled around by the rough winter waves in the Sea of Japan, which wash away any impurities. The quartz's surface then becomes squeaky clean so that when the grains rub against each other, they produce sound.



In spring, the singing sound can be heard at its best since the freshly polished sand is carried by the waves and wind onto the beach.

On sunny days when the sand is dry, try walking while rubbing the sand with the bottom of your foot to hear the sand sing.

By the Sanin Kaigan Geopark Promotion Council TEL 0796-26-3783

Kyotango City International Exchange News

Introduction to Chinese New Year

An introductory presentation on Chinese New Year (hosted by the Kyotango City International Association) was streamed live on Instagram and Facebook on February 26th.

The livestream aimed to introduce the Chinese Lantern Festival, which is known for lighting up any Chinese city with colorful lantern displays during the New Year celebration. Jessica Ye, the CIR at Kyotango City Hall (Chinese-American), and Li Qiongrui, the Regional Coordinator for Ryokufuu Senior High School (Chinese) were the lecturers on the livestream.

For anyone who wants to paint their own lantern (supplies limited) or learn about the Lantern Festival, please visit Roots in central Mineyama. You can view the recorded livestreams from the event on KIA's Facebook and Roots' Instagram.

Follow us on social media!



Li (left) and Jessica (right) holding up lanterns

Kyotango City Personnel Changes

As of 2/28

Sayuri Miyoshi – Retired

Gynecologist

Yasaka Municipal Hospital Diagnostics Department

As of 3/1

Toshiki Tamura – Hired

Gynecologist

Yasaka Municipal Hospital Diagnostics Department

Masayoshi Wakabayashi – Hired

Senior Official (Fixed-term Employment)

Commerce, Industry, and Tourism Promotion Section/ Hometown Tax Promotion Office
in the Policy and Planning Section under the Mayor's Office

Masaharu Minami – Hired

Senior Official (Fixed-term Employment)

Commerce, Industry, and Tourism Promotion Section/Agricultural Promotion Section
in the Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

Michael Jürges – Hired

Junior Official (Fixed-term Employment)

Regional Community Promotion Section under the Mayor's Office

Population and Households in Kyotango

The numbers in the parentheses show the change in population from the end of January to the end of February according to the Residential Basic Registry (includes foreign residents)

Population: 52,683 (-67)

Male: 25,382 (-33)

Female: 27,301 (-34)

Number of Households: 22,886 (± 0)

Main Reasons for Change in Population (Feb.)

Move-in: 65

Move-out: 69

Births: 17

Deaths: 80

Other: ±0