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Being prepared for disasters

Seven years have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 2011. You would be very concerned if your family members are separated in the event of a disaster. We can't tell when a disaster will occur, so it is important to be prepared.

1 Emergency supply kit checklist (List of what to bring out)

- Flashlight 
- Portable radio 
- Emergency food 
- Drinking water 
- Medicine 
- Valuables (money, cash card, passport, resident card, Health insurance card) 
- Clothing and underwear 
- Helmet 
- Towel 
- Gloves, etc. 

2 Talk about disasters with your family

Evacuation center, Meeting place

*Evacuation center: A place where people evacuate and can temporary live together when a disaster happens.

Confirm the location of the evacuation center near your home and take an actual walk there. Decide on where to gather with your family and friends.

How to communicate

★ Ways you can leave a message for your family and friends in case when you can't see them and can't use your phone ★

Decide on more than one way of contacting each other in case you cannot use your mobile phone, such as leaving a memo at home or using SNS tools.



◆ "171" Emergency dialing system

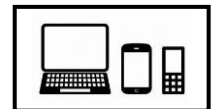
This system can be used to leave a recorded message, and your family and friends can listen using it.

Recording a message ①Call number "171" ②Press"1" and your number ③Press"1#" ④Speak ⑤Press"9#" ⑥Press"1" and your number

Listening to a message ①Call number "171" ②Press"2" and the number of the person whose message you want to listen to ③Press"1#" ④Speak ⑤Press"9#" ⑥Press"1" and your number

◆ Emergency message system

You can use this internet message board system to write a message to your family and friends, and they can read your message there.



Message system URL: <https://www.web171.jp>

3 Learn how to spend in evacuation center

It is important to follow the rules and manners as you will live with strangers in a small place, such as an elementary school gym. If you don't understand difficult Japanese, or if there's something you cannot eat for the reasons of religion, etc., or if you need a place to pray, let the people at the evacuation site know about it.

4 Participate in emergency drills

Your neighborhood community holds emergency drills. Please participate in those drills to make sure of what to do in the event of a disaster. Say greetings on a regular basis to your neighbors, and participate in local events, such as festivals, to get to know each other.



Join neighborhood association's activities!



“Jichikai” is a neighborhood association, and consists of residents living within the same area where community activities are organized to keep a comfortable living environment, such as anti-crime activities and disaster prevention drills. When a disaster occurs, it is important to work with your neighbors and help each other.

Jichikai activities:

- ◇ Activities for making a livable community
 - ▽ Garbage disposal sites control, cleanup of parks and streets, community center administration
- ◇ Activities for safety and security
 - ▽ Installation and management of electric lights for crime prevention, anti-crime patrol, traffic safety campaign, disaster and crime prevention activities
- ◇ Activities for public relations
 - ▽ Issuing regional public relation magazines, passing around a clip board “Kairanban” to share local info.
- ◇ Activities for neighborhood friendship and regional exchanges
 - ▽ Sports events, summer festivals, etc.

How to join a Neighborhood Association

Please contact the neighborhood association officer in your area. If you can't find their contact information, please inquire at the City's Neighborhood Association Federation (City Hall 10F) ☎028-632-2289

Filing for an income tax return



Income tax

Income tax is the tax applied to one's income for the period of 1 year from January 1 – December 31.

Filing for an income tax return

People who have an income can calculate their income tax based on their income over a 1 year period. File the next year at the tax office, determine the income tax, and if you ended up paying too much tax, then you can complete procedures to get a tax return. This is called “filing for an income tax return.” If your income is your salary only and your company makes year-end adjustments, you do not need to file for an income tax return. However, in the following cases, please file for an income tax return.

1. Your company doesn't make a year-end adjustment
2. You worked at 2 or more companies in 1 year
3. You had an increase in family members
4. You are sending money to your family abroad
5. You have national health insurance coverage
6. You paid a lot of money to a hospital (over 100,000 yen in 1 year)

What is needed to file for an income tax return

Depending on the declaration content, other items may be necessary, so please confirm with the tax office.

1. Income tax return filing form (at the tax office)
2. Document stating your income (earnings statement or payment certificate)
3. Personal ID (Residence card, etc.), My Number card or document with your My Number notated
4. Personal seal, etc.

Inquiries: Utsunomiya Zeimusho (Tax Office)

☎ 028-621-2151

(It is an automated service, so please press “0”)

Fun events 🎵 🎶



Spring Break Japanese Language Classes



March 26 (Mon), 27 (Tue), 28 (Wed), 29 (Thurs), 30 (Fri)

🕒 April 2 (Mon), 3 (Tue), 4 (Wed), 5 (Thurs), 6 (Fri)

10:00AM – 12:00PM Total of 10 times

😊 Japanese language classes for children with an international background requiring Japanese language support

Cost Free

Sign up Please sign up by calling or sending a FAX or e-mail to UCIA with the following information: Student's name, address, guardian's telephone no., school name, year in school, nationality, years living in Japan

@ Utsunomiya Omotesando Square 6F Multipurpose Hall 1 & 2

☎ Utsunomiya City International Association 028-616-1870 FAX: 028-616-1871

✉ ucia@ucia.or.jp

Utsunomiya Street Performance Festival

🕒 March 17 (Sat) – 18 (Sun)

11:00AM – 5:00PM

😊 Balloon art by street performers, make up booth, food & beverage booths

Please refer to the homepage for details:
<http://www.utsunomiyadaidogei.com/>

Orion Square

@ Tobu Department Store 6F Outdoor Area
Various places along Orion Street

☎ Utsunomiya Daidogei Festival Jikkoiinkai
(Utsunomiya Street Performance
Festival Organizing Committee)
028-634-1722



Cherry Blossom Festival



🕒 March 17 (Sat) 10:00AM– 3:00PM

(To be postponed in case of bad weather)

😊 Stage events such as music performances, food booths, exhibition booth, etc.

@ Utsunomiya Castle Park
5-1-1 Chuo, Utsunomiya-shi vicinity
“Yomigaere Utsunomiya Castle”
Citizen's Group
028-632-2989



International Exchange Salon

🕒 4th Sunday of every month

4:00PM – 6:00PM

Mar. 24 Looking back on this year's
our activity

Apr. 28 Orientation

😊 An event at which you can talk with people from various countries. Families welcome!

Cost Free

@ Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP)

☎ 028-616-1563

028-616-1563



Enjoy picture books 📖

🕒 March 24 (Sat) 2:00PM – 2:30PM

😊 A volunteer group “Ohanashi Pocket Izumi” will read picture books to children.

@ Utsunomiya International Plaza
(Baba-dori 4-1-1 5F)

☎ Yousei Museum

028-616-1573





UCIA 20th Anniversary Commemorative Event Japanese Speech (5)



Connection between me and local community

My name is Stacy Kurokawa. I came from Canada 14 years ago.

When I came to Utsunomiya, what I was able to say in Japanese were only some greetings and numbers. Having studied Japanese in UCIA's Japanese language classes, I've become able to give a speech in Japanese like this today.

One month after I came to Utsunomiya, I had a chance to participate in one of the UCIA's events, called "Japanese Cultural day," and experienced various aspects of Japanese culture there, such as flower arrangement and kimono dressing. I was able to make some good friends there, too.

I really enjoy UCIA's Japanese classes. We talk about different cultures from all over the world and also about our concerns and things that make us happy in daily life too.

As part of UCIA's activities, I gave a lecture for an international understanding class introducing my country and also participated in events such as strawberry picking and disaster prevention center tours. I was able to meet lots of new people through those activities.

In this way I've met various people and also been able to form local communities thanks to UCIA.

Stacy Kurokawa

※This is an extract from his speech. We will also post other presenters' speeches in subsequent issues. Don't miss it!

Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP) Services

Consultation for Foreign Residents



		Spanish Portuguese	Chinese	Thai	English
UIP ☎616-1564	3:00PM - 6:00PM	Mon	Tues	Wed	Fri
		4 th Sunday of month (appointment needed)			
City Hall ☎632-2834 (during office hours)	9:00AM - 12:00PM	Thurs	2 nd Thurs	—	—
	2:00PM - 5:00PM	Thurs	—	2 nd Thurs	2 nd Thurs
Administrative Scrivener ☎616-1564	3:00PM - 5:00PM	3 rd Monday (appointment needed)			

Interpreter Volunteer Service

Go with someone needing language assistance to such places as national and prefectural facilities and the city hall, and interpret for them

- ▶ Monday – Sunday
8:30AM – 7:00PM
- ▶ 1 time (2 hours) 2,000 yen
- ▶ Please fill our application form at UIP, pay the fee, and submit the application.

“Oh-!” is published in easy Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, and Thai, and is also available on the UCIA website. <http://www.ucia.or.jp> There you can enjoy reading past issues of the “Oh-!” too.