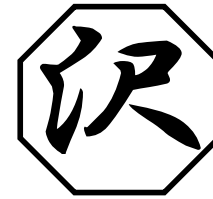




# YONEZAWAJIN



No.15 June 2008 (English Edition)

## Onsens of Yonezawa

There are eight hot spring (onsen) areas in Yonezawa, each with its own unique atmosphere and therapeutic effects. Why not go try them all!

### Shirabu Hot Spring TEL 55-2205

Situated in a mountain pass over 850m high, this hot spring was discovered over 700 years ago and is famous for its traditional thatched-roof inns. This area is also the home to the rare white monkeys.



### Onogawa Hot Spring TEL 32-2740

Onogawa is surrounded by beautiful natural scenery. Along the river are teashops, outdoor baths, and foot baths. It is also known as the "Home of the Fireflies" and the Onogawa Firefly Festival is held each year in the summer.



### Shin Takayu Hot Spring TEL 55-2031

This onsen is located 2km further up the mountain from Shirabu Hot Spring. Beautiful views of the Asahi mountain range can be enjoyed from the outdoor bath.



### Odaira Hot Spring TEL 090-3024-1726

This hot spring inn is located at an elevation of 1,050m in a deep valley in the Azuma mountain range. It can only be reached by foot.



### Namekawa Hot Spring TEL 090-3022-11

This outdoor bath is located nearby the Namekawa Waterfall, which is chosen as one of the hundred most scenic waterfalls in Japan. The views of the mountain stream and the summer and fall leaves are breathtaking.



### Ubayu Hot Spring TEL 090-7797-5934

Located in a deep mountain valley about 1,300 meters high, this hot spring is surrounded on its three sides by towering rocks. It is the highest onsen in Yamagata Prefecture.



### Goshiki Hot Spring TEL 34-2511

Spectacular views of the the Ou mountain range can be seen from this hot spring. The view of the fresh green of summer and autumn colors of the surrounding trees are especially beautiful.



### Yunosawa Hot Spring TEL 35-2234

This quiet mountain inn only accepts two-person reservations. The inn has private baths where you can relax and enjoy beautiful scenery and also serves delicious original Yonezawa beef cuisine.



## The 28th Onogawa Firefly Festival

Every year in early summer, several thousand fireflies can be seen around the Omono River near the Onogawa Hot Springs. During this time, the Onogawa Firefly Festival is held and features many different events.

**Festival Period: June 20<sup>th</sup> (Fri)~July 31<sup>st</sup> (Thu)**

- Outdoor Hot Spring** Open until 9:00pm every night
- Firefly Tea House** 6/20 (Fri)~7/21 (Mon)  
(Beverages and snacks will be sold)
- Firefly Viewing** 8:00pm~9:00pm (Best viewing time)
- Opening Ceremony** 6/21 (Sat) 7:30pm~
- Special Events**
  - ①7/5 (Sat) 7:00pm~
  - ②7/6 (Sun) 6:00pm~
  - ③7/21 (Mon) 7:00pm~



### DID YOU KNOW????

#### Azuma Bamboo • Sansai 吾妻竹・山菜



Azuma bamboo is a slender, edible bamboo shoot that can be gathered on the Azuma Mountain from late June to mid July. It has a distinctive, starchy taste and crunchy texture and is used in various local cuisine such as bamboo rice and bamboo tempura. Many other kinds of mountain vegetables (sansai) can also be found in the mountains of Yonezawa including kogomi, zenmai, and udo. Sansai picking is a popular activity in the spring and early summer. Be sure to only pick and eat sansai that you know are edible since some plants are poisonous. It is also easy to get lost in the mountains as well so always travel in a group and be sure to tell people where you are going before you leave.



# Volunteer Japanese Language Classes in Yonezawa



There were several errors printed in the Japanese Language Class information listed in the May edition of the Newsletter. Below is the corrected information. We apologize for the errors.

Group Name	Contact	Class Description
Global Communication Circle Yonezawa (G.C.C.Y)	Hiromi Suzuki TEL 38-3576	3 terms a year (1 <sup>st</sup> Term: May ~ July, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Term: September~November, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Term: January~March) Date/Time: Tuesdays 19:30~21:00 Place: Nanbu Community Center TEL 24-2011 Cost: 700 yen per term
Volunteer Circle GAEA	Yuki Sato TEL 28-1527 (After 19:00)	Date/Time: Wednesdays 19:00~21:00 Place: Nanbu Community Center TEL 24-2011 Cost: 500 yen per month
Eki-Mae Salon	Chiaki Higuchi Yonezawa Station Front Shopping Area Promotion Association TEL 23-4531	Date/Time: Mondays 15:00~17:00, Wednesdays 16:00~18:00 Place: Yonezawa Station Building 2F Multipurpose Hall Cost: 1,000 yen per month



## Other Events & Information



### Machi No Hiroba (Town Square) Events

Marking Market:  
Every Sunday in June 6:00am~7:00am  
Flea Market:  
6/8 (Sun) 9:00am~4:00pm  
Inquiries: City Commerce Division TEL 22-5111

### Let's Chat! ~Come and enjoy speaking in English!~

Date: 6/12 (Thu), 5/25 (Wed)  
Time: 2:30pm~4:00pm  
Place: City Hall Room 701  
Cost: Free  
Inquiries: City Secretarial & Public Relations Division  
TEL 22-5111

### The 18<sup>th</sup> Citizens Tea Ceremony

Date: 6/15 (Sun)  
Time: 10:30am~3:00pm  
Place: Za No Bunka Densho Kan  
Cost: Free (tea ticket required)  
Tea Ticket: Available at Za No Bunka Denshokan, Denkoku No Mori, City Hall Information Desk  
Inquiries: Zano Bunka Denshokan TEL 23-8009



## Donate Today



- China Earthquake Relief Fund
- Myanmar Cyclone Relief Fund

Donation Period: Until 6/10 (Tue)  
Place: City Hall Front Entrance  
(Inside the donation box)  
Inquiries: Japan Red Cross Yonezawa District  
City Social Welfare Division TEL 22-5111

### Oshoshina Market Club Cherry Market

Date: 6/21 (Sat) 6:00am~7:00am  
Place: In front of Okitama Sogo Shicho Building  
Inquiries: Okitama Sogo Shicho Agricultural Technology Promotion Division TEL 57-3411

### Jazz Café Live 1 ~ Kiyoo Umeki Quartet~

Date: 6/28 (Sat) Time: 19:00~  
Cost: 800 yen (1,000 yen for tickets bought at the door)  
(Includes one drink)\* No pre-school aged children allowed.  
Tickets: Available at Denkoku No Mori Limit: 100 people  
Inquiries: Denkoku No Mori TEL 26-2666

## Yoji-Jukugo of the Month

kachofugetsu  
花鳥風月

(Flower, bird, wind, moon)

Meaning: The beauties of nature.

*If you would like to be put on our mailing list, or if you have any feedback for the newsletter, please contact us at:*

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Secretarial and Public Relations Division  
Yonezawa City Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
5-2-25 Kanaike, Yonezawa, Yamagata 〒992-8501  
TEL: 0238-22-5111 Ext. 3005  
FAX: 0238-24-4540  
Email: hisyo-ka@city.yonezawa.yamagata.jp  
Homepage: <http://www.city.yonezawa.yamagata.jp/shisei/matidukuri/kokusai/index.html>