



The Yonezawa City Library Has Been Re-Opened!

The library information system has been renewed and now more convenient than before!

1. The Library Card is Now a "Rewrite Card"

A rewrite card is a magnetic card on which information can be printed and erased over and over. Your check-out data will be printed on your card now so it will be easy to check which books you have checked out as well as their due dates. The new cards will also reduce the use of paper resources compared to previous paper receipts.

You can change your old library card to the new card at the library checkout counter right away. Please make sure not to bend or tear your new card.

2. You Can Now Reserve Books Online

You can reserve and renew your books and check your checkout status through the internet on your home computer or cell phone.

3. You Can Now Use Internet at the Library

There are now 3 computers in the library that can be used to browse the internet. The computers are installed with internet filtering software used at schools so children can safely use the internet as well. Please follow proper internet manners when using the internet.

Cost: Free
(30 minutes maximum for each person)



4. The Checkout Limit and Period has been Increased & Extended

The checkout limit for books has been increased from 5 books to 10 books. The checkout period for videos has also been extended from 4 days to 7 days. You can now check out DVDs as well.

New Check Out Guidelines

Item	Checkout Limit	Checkout Period (Renewal Period)
Books	10	14 days (14 days)
Videos DVDs	3	7 days (7 days)

Did You Know ??

Primitive/Ancient Fabric Museum (Yonezawa Mingeikan)



This is a rare museum that displays and preserves ancient clothing and fabrics of Japan. It was established by Mr. Sei Yamamura, a native of Yonezawa, who was engaged in the recreation and continuation of primitive and ancient fabrics. The items and documents that he used during his research are on display at the museum. Many ancient fabrics made from tree bark and grass, along with various tools used to make them are on display, allowing guests to learn about the history of clothing in Japan before cotton fabrics became common. In the back of the museum is the Dewa no Oriza facility where primitive fabric items which were recreated are displayed and sold.

Address: 1-1-16 Monto-machi, Yonezawa
TEL 22-8141
Hours: 10:00~16:00 (Reservations recommended)
Admission: Adults 500 yen,
Elementary /Jr. High School Students 100 yen

Sasano Kannon Festival

Date: January 17th (Sun)
Time: 14:00~15:30
Place: Sasano Kannon Temple
Cost: Free
(500 yen for the Fire Walk)



This annual festival is held at the Sasano Kannon Temple in the Sasano District of southern Yonezawa. During the festival, a fire walk is held where you walk across burning embers to pray for good health. You can participate in the fire walking if you buy an amulet at the temple on the day of the event. Sasano Itobori wooden carvings will also be sold on the temple grounds and along the streets outside.

About H1N1 Flu Vaccinations

There is a priority schedule for who and when people can receive vaccinations for the H1N1 Flu. Please look at the chart below for the general vaccination schedule. There is a possibility that the schedule may change depending on the number of people that actually receive the vaccinations and the amount of vaccinations given.

Estimated Vaccination Schedule	
1 year old to 3 rd grade children with underlying diseases	November
Patients undergoing renal dialysis	November
Pregnant women	November
People with underlying diseases (in the top priority group)	November
4 th grade to Jr. high 3 rd grade students with underlying diseases	November
High school students and older with underlying diseases	December
Healthy 1 to 6 years old children	December
Healthy 6 year olds to 3 rd graders	December
Healthy 4 th to 6 th graders	Early Jan
Guardians of healthy children younger than 1 year old	Early Jan.
Healthy junior and senior high school students	Mid Jan.
Healthy elders	Mid Feb.

Where to Get Vaccinations

If you have a family doctor, please consult the medical institution that you usually go to for details about getting a vaccination. If you do not have a family doctor, please consult a general medical institution that accepts general visitors. You may also receive vaccinations outside of the Yonezawa.

Vaccination Costs

The cost for the H1N1 flu vaccination is the same all across Japan.

First Shot: 3,600 yen

Second Shot: 2,500*

*Only if the vaccination is received at the same medical facility as the first shot. If received at a different facility, the cost will be 3,600 yen.



Other Events & Information

Yonezawa City International Relations Association (YIRA) Information

YIRA Cafe

If you are interested in international exchange or want to chat with people in different languages including Japanese, English, Chinese or Korean, bring your friends along and join us for a cup of tea!

When: 1/8 (Fri) 14:30~16:00

Where: City Hall 7F Meeting Room 701

Cost: Free

YIRA New Year Festival

Come try traditional mochi (rice cake) making! This year we will also be making steamed Chinese dumplings to celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year! There will also be Japanese calligraphy and traditional New Year games.

When: 1/30 (Sat) 10:30~14:00

Where: Seibu Community Center

Cost: Members 300 yen (Jr. High School Students and older), Non-Members 600 yen, Elementary Students 100 yen

Sign- Up Deadline: 1/25 (Mon)

Sign Ups/Inquiries: YIRA Office
TEL 22-5111 Email: yira@omn.ne.jp
Home Page: <http://www.omn.ne.jp/~yira>

The 33rd Yonezawa Snow Lantern Festival

Place: Uesugi Shrine Around Matsugasaki Park 

Pre-Event: Feb 12th (Fri)

Pre-Lighting: 17:30~

The snow lanterns around the pathway leading to the Uesugi Shrine will be lit up a day before the event.

Main Event Feb 13th (Sat) · 14th (Sun)

Chinkon Festival: 17:00~ * Only on Feb 13th (Sat)

Lighting: 17:30~ Snow lanterns and snow candles will be lit up to create an enchanting atmosphere!

Stage Event: Many fun events including the opening ceremony and various music performances will be held.

Food Tent Village: 11:00~ Many foods from Yonezawa such as Yonezawa beef and ramen, along with food from various other regions of Japan will be sold!

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

Civic Exchange Section

Secretarial & Public Relations Division

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