

News from Iwate's Reconstruction

The news from Iwate as it moves toward reconstruction

Ganbaro, Iwate!
Let's stick together, Iwate!

三陸復興

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We are deeply grateful for the heartwarming encouragement and support received from both within and outside of Japan in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, which struck on March 11, 2011. The precious bonds created during this time will always be cherished.

People are having a blast during the short summer in the coastal regions of Iwate - the sunlight blazes down on us and sounds of laughter can be heard from families and children playing on the beach.

We will now bring you the news from Iwate's reconstruction.

Swimming Season Begins as Beaches Open Along the Coast

Beach season has begun! On July 12, 2015 (Sun), the beaches along Iwate coast were formally opened beginning with Funado Beach in Kuji.

This year there are 8 locations in total: Edogahama Beach in Taneichi-Kaihin Park (Hirono), Funado Beach (Kuji), Samuraihama-Iwaba Swimming Pool (Kuji), Fudai Beach (Fudai), Jodogahama Beach (Miyako), Fujinokawa Beach (Miyako),

Fujinokawa Beach (Miyako), Aragami Beach (Yamada), and Kirikiri Beach (Otsuchi).

As we face the dog days of summer, it's hoped that the high number of beach-going visitors from both within and outside the prefecture will contribute to the reconstruction of tourism along the coast.



Jodogahama Beach (Miyako)



Aragami Beach (Yamada)



Kirikiri Beach (Otsuchi)

Contact

- Edogahama Beach, Taneichi-Kaihin Park (Hirono)/Hirono Town Department of Maritime Commerce and Industry 0194-65-5916
- Funado Beach (Kuji)/Kuji City Department of Commerce, Industry and Tourism 0194-52-2123
- Samuraihama-Iwaba Swimming Pool (Kuji)/North Samuraihama Campsite 0194-58-3855
- Fudai Beach (Fudai)/Fudai Village Department of Commerce, Industry and Tourism 0194-35-2111

- Jodogahama Beach (Miyako)/Miyako City Department of Commerce, Industry and Tourism 0193-68-9091
- Fujinokawa Beach (Miyako)/Miyako City Education and Lifelong Learning Department 0193-68-9120
- Aragami Beach (Yamada)/Yamada Town Tourism Association 0193-34-3775
- Kirikiri Beach (Otsuchi)/Otsuchi Town Administrative Department of Commerce, Industry and Labour 0193-42-8725

An Iwate First!

The Temporary Shopping Street "Sanriku Saiko" Opens Permanently

Ofunato

Amidst the severe damage of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, a temporary shopping area was set up in Okirai (Sanriku Town, Ofunato). On July 12, 2015 (Sun), the site opened permanently as the Sanriku-Saiko Shopping Association.

This is the first time that a temporary shopping district along the coast has been established as a permanent fixture.

The Sanriku-Saiko Shopping Association was set up in a new location

by members of the Urahama-Saiko Shopping Association, who came together in 2012. The site has 9 shops in total, including a restaurant, clothing store and barbershop. A meeting place has also been established for local residents.

The shopping district is situated next to a local council office, a medical clinic, and a construction site for public housing for disaster survivors. It is expected to take its place at the heart of the community.



Opening of Sanriku-Saiko Shopping

The 2015 subsidy for solar energy installation in homes affected by the disaster

For those whose properties (homes, offices, etc.) were partially or completely destroyed by the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, the prefecture will issue a subsidy for the installation of solar energy systems into your repaired or new home. (¥20,000 per kw, up to, but not including, 10kw). *Refer to the homepage for more information. <http://www.pref.iwate.jp/kankyouseisaku/energy/002959.html>

*Information only available in Japanese.

Contact: Department of Environment and Residential Life, Office of Environment and Residential Life Planning, Iwate Prefecture. TEL: 019-629-5326

Announcement



Taro Daiichi Junior High School Students Get Hands-On Experience at Road Construction Site

Miyako

From July 9 (Thu) to July 10 (Fri), 30 third-year students from Miyako City's Taro Daiichi Junior High School (Principal Masayuki Sugai, 100 students total) took part in a work experience program in the Taro region.

The students visited companies and construction sites in the Taro area. The purpose of the trip was to deepen their understanding of these workplaces, and to give them a chance to hear the workers' thoughts regarding the reconstruction.

The locations on the work experience program included the Miyako-Taro road along the Sanriku Coast, fire stations, nursing homes for the elderly, confectionary shops, lodging facilities, etc.

Three students on July 9 (Thu) and four students on July 10 (Fri) visited the construction site along the Miyako-Taro road, which is undergoing reconstruction after the disaster. They observed the construction on tunnels in Kashinai district and learned about the building process. Afterwards they took part in various other activities, like the evaluation of raw concrete, the construction of reinforced concrete, and land surveillance.



Students observing construction on tunnels (photo provided by Taro Daiichi Junior High School)

U.S.-Japan High School Students Summit in Rikuzentakata 2015

Rikuzentakata

On July 11, 2015 (Sat), U.S.-Japan High School Students Summit in Rikuzentakata 2015 (sponsored by Rikuzentakata City Association for Recovery, Reconstruction, and Development Aid TAKATA) was held at the community hall in Rikuzentakata.

The participants consisted of 32 American high school students who are a part of the Japan Foundation's project to visit Japan and 25 students from Ofunato High School.

This year the summit focused on community building, with a focus on making "normalization" something "normal."

The high school students were split into mixed groups of eight and sent around the city to look for problems faced by the elderly, people with disabilities, foreign residents, and children.

They then thought up solutions to these problems and presented on them. These solutions will be submitted to the city as a written proposal.

***Normalization:** Making life as close to "normal conditions" as possible to people with disabilities and other disadvantaged people. Rikuzentakata City is focused on welcoming people from all walks of life.



Students who participated in the summit (photo provided by Rikuzentakata City)

Many young people are diligently helping the affected area of Sanriku move toward a full reconstruction. The section "People for Sanriku's Future" introduces these young people and their powerful feelings.

Part 42 introduces Ms. Kagumi Ogasawara's efforts.

PROFILE

Originally from Yahaba Town. Currently a third year student studying community welfare at Iwate Prefectural University in the Faculty of Social Welfare's Social Administration Department.

As a student, she participated in a project known as Manabi no Heya, which is held by an association called Empowerment through Participation and Challenge. They assist children in disaster affected areas with their studies. She also takes part in planning playtime projects for children.

People for SANRIKU'S Future

3rd year student at Iwate University
Kagumi Ogasawara



"The coast and the inlands are all the same Iwate! I want to see the smiles of more children!"

help out by playing with the children in disaster affected areas and assisting in schoolwork.

Ms. Ogasawara understands the complicated feelings that the people living here must be having, as land elevation work continues and the town around them drastically changes. Nevertheless, she feels like there are still very few places along the coast for the children to play.

Make a trip over to the coast

"Immediately after the earthquake, I felt that as an inland resident I had no right to talk about the earthquake, and I hesitated to visit the coast. But I ended up having the chance to go when a friend invited me one day, and after listening to the locals talk, I found myself understanding their feelings little by little," Ms. Ogasawara said.

"As residents of the same Iwate Prefecture, I want people who live inland to make a trip to the coast and feel what the people living in that area are feeling. I also hope we'll be able to spread news about Iwate's current situation to many places outside of the prefecture," she said on continuing support for the coast in the future.

There are still very few places for the kids to play

Around the end of her first year in college, she attended a project held by Empowerment through Participation and Challenge called Manabi no Heya, where she helped children in disaster affected areas with their studies.

After that, she participated in GINGA-NET, which brings in university students who are interested in supporting the reconstruction from all over the country to Iwate, where they then

Casualties & Damage in Iwate As of June 30, 2015

- ▶ Human casualties/deaths: 4,672; Missing: 1,129
- ▶ Buildings destroyed (residences only, total/partial): 26,163

To make a donation to aid in Iwate's reconstruction:
www.pref.iwate.jp/fukkounougoki/dayori/news/011100.html

Thank you for all your support!

As of June 30, 2015

Donations for survivors: Around ¥18.39738 billion (91,638 donations)

Donations for reconstruction projects: Around ¥19.68654 billion (7,378 donations)

Iwate Learning Hope Fund donations: Around ¥7.63508 billion (15,843 donations)

※ This fund is to assist in the study and daily life of affected children by encouraging sport and study activities.

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