



Published by the City of Urayasu
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City News

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U R A Y A S U

Population and No. of Households in Urayasu

Population: 171,902
Male: 83,028
Female: 88,874
Households: 87,846
Foreign Residents: 5,692
(As of December 31, 2025)

Reflecting on Urayasu's Nori (Seaweed) Cultivation



Urayasu was once a leading producer of nori in Tokyo Bay and was well-known as a "nori town." According to records from 1938, Urayasu ranked first in Chiba Prefecture for both the volume and value of nori harvested, making it one of the top nori production areas in the country. The nori harvest took place from around November to March. The sight of Beka-bune boats fully loaded with nori lining the riverbanks and the expansive nori drying grounds was a quintessential winter scene in Urayasu.

Inquiries: Folk Museum
☎ 305-4300

Winter Special Exhibition: "Nori Cultivation in Urayasu"

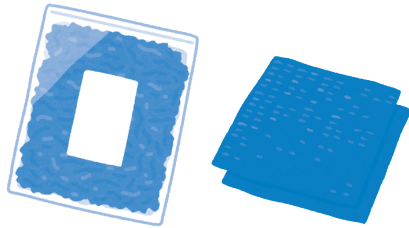
The Folk Museum is currently holding a special exhibition titled "Nori Cultivation in Urayasu," which introduces the history of nori farming that once supported the city as a core industry. The exhibition showcases not only the history of nori cultivation but also the various charms of nori, which remains a familiar part of our lives.

When: Until Sunday, March 1
Where: Folk Museum (Kyodo Hakubutsukan)
Program: Exhibits on the history, folklore, and nature of nori cultivation.



Let's Eat Delicious Nori!

When: Saturday, February 14, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Where: Folk Museum (Kyodo Hakubutsukan)
Target: Elementary school students in 3rd grade and above (1st and 2nd graders may participate if accompanied by a guardian); 20 people.
Program: Comparing the taste of freshly harvested nori.
Fee: 100 yen



Nori Trivia

Did nori cultivation
continue even after
fishing rights were
relinquished!?

Urayasu completely relinquished its fishing rights in 1971. However, nori cultivation alone continued until 1975 by applying for short-term licenses. From the late 1950s onward, while the marine environment deteriorated, nori production actually increased due to mechanization. As a topical exhibit, we introduce the evolution of nori production through mechanization.

Nori from Chiba Prefecture

Although nori cultivation in Urayasu came to an end, it still continues in Chiba Prefecture today in Ichikawa, Funabashi, Kisarazu, and Futtsu cities. Chiba-produced nori is said to have "excellent color, taste, and aroma," and although production volume is not large, it is known as a high-quality luxury product. The special exhibition introduces nori shops in the city that carry Chiba nori and the rare "Aomaze Nori," which contains green seaweed (Aonori).

Does Nori "Sing"!?

From January to February, the Folk Museum offers a "Nori-suki (nori-making) experience" for 4th-grade elementary school students. Inside the museum, you can see nori made during these sessions being dried. When the drying nori loses its moisture, it makes a "crackling" sound, which nori fishermen used to call "the singing of the nori." Please stop by and try to hear the sound of the nori "sing." *Nori drying will be conducted until around Sunday, February 22 (Please note it may not be on display at all times).

Notice Regarding Final Tax Returns

The deadline for filing and payment of Income Tax, as well as the filing of Residential Tax (Municipal/Prefectural Tax), is

Monday, March 16.

Final Income Tax Returns

..... Tax Filing Consultation

Consultation with Certified Public Tax Accountants

When: Thursday, February 5 - Thursday, February 12, 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Excluding Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, February 11 (Public Holiday). Numbered tickets will be distributed starting at 9:00 a.m.

Where: Citizens Plaza (Shimin Plaza)

Consultation with Ichikawa Tax Office

When & Where:

- Monday - Friday until Monday, March 16 (Excluding public holidays), from 9:00 a.m. at Ichikawa Tax Office (Ichikawa-shi, Kita-machi). *Parking is not available.

- Sunday, March 1 from 9:00 a.m. at Funabashi Tax Office (Funabashi-shi, Higashi-Funabashi).

*To receive a consultation, an advance reservation is required via the National Tax Agency official LINE account (@kokuzei). Reservations are accepted from 2 weeks to 2 days before the desired consultation date. From Monday, February 16, numbered entry tickets for same-day reception will be distributed from 8:30 a.m., but reception may close early depending on the situation.

How to File

Electronic Filing

On the National Tax Agency website "Preparation Corner for Final Tax Returns" (<https://www.keisan.nta.go.jp>), you can create income tax returns by simply entering amounts following the on-screen instructions. By reading your My Number Card, you can submit the return via e-Tax. Additionally, by linking with Mynportal, information regarding income and deductions can be automatically entered into the return.

Submission of Tax Returns

Ichikawa Tax Office: By Monday, March 16 (postmarked by this date), please submit directly to Ichikawa Tax Office, or mail to: Tokyo Regional Taxation Bureau Business Center Chiba-Nishi Branch (Ichikawa Tax Office), 1-520 Takeishicho, Hanamigawa-ku, Chiba-shi, 262-8507.

Civic Hall (Shimin Hall) (City Hall 1F): From Monday, February 16 to Monday, March 16, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Excluding Saturday and Monday, February 23 (Public Holiday)), a drop-box will be installed for prepared tax returns.

Inquiries: Ichikawa Tax Office

☎ 047-335-4101 (Residential Tax Section)

Residential Tax (Municipal/Prefectural Tax) Filing

Who Needs to File

Among those registered as residents of Urayasu City as of January 1, 2026, those who fall under any of the following:

- Those who had no income from January to December 2025 and are not a dependent of anyone, or are a dependent of someone in a different household. *Filing is required even if you are a dependent of someone working away from home.

- Those receiving public pensions based on overseas laws, or those receiving only tax-exempt income such as survivors' pension, disability pension, or unemployment benefits.


- Those whose employer did not submit a Wage Payment Report to Urayasu City.

The following people do not need to file:

- Those who file a final income tax return for 2025.

- Those whose only income is from public pensions or wages and have no additional deductions.

Inquiries: Residential Tax Section ☎ 712-6212



Urayasu City Price Hike Relief Gift Certificates

To support citizens' lives and revitalize the local economy, "Urayasu City Price Hike Relief Gift Certificates" will be distributed, which can be used at participating shops and businesses within the city. The certificates will be mailed sequentially to heads of households starting around mid-February.

Target: Those registered as residents of Urayasu City as of January 1. Face Value: 5,000 yen per person (Five 1,000 yen certificates).

Participating Stores: To be announced around Mid-February on the Urayasu City Price Hike Relief Gift Certificate special website (<https://urayasu-shohinken.jp>), etc. Alternatively, please see the list of participating stores enclosed with the certificates.

Validity Period: Sunday, March 1 - Monday, August 31

Inquiries: Commerce, Industry and Tourism Section ☎ 712-6297

FY2025 Child-rearing Support Allowance for Rising Prices

To support child-rearing households affected by rising prices, 20,000 yen per eligible child will be provided.

Eligibility:

1. Those who received the Child Allowance (Jido Teate) from Urayasu City for September 2025.

2. Public servants who received the Child Allowance for September 2025 from their affiliated office.

3. Parents/guardians raising children born between October 1, 2025, and April 1, 2026.

4. Those who became new recipients of the Child Allowance due to divorce, etc. (from October 2025 onward).

Application:

For those under category 1: No application is required. In principle, the allowance will be transferred to the

same account as the Child Allowance. For those under categories 2-4: Please submit an application form by Tuesday, March 31 (must arrive by the deadline). Forms are available at the Child Services Section (Kodomo-ka) (City Hall 2F) or can be downloaded from the city website. Submit directly or by mail to: Urayasu City Hall, Child Services Section (Kodomo-ka), 279-8501. Alternatively, apply via the city website.

Note: If you wish to change your bank account, please check the city website. Please bring something that shows the applicant's transfer account information (bankbook or cash card). This is not necessary if you wish to use the public money receipt account registered on Mynportal.

Inquiries: Child Services Section ☎ 712-6424



Children's Kite Flying Event

When: Wednesday, February 11 (Public Holiday), 10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. *Cancelled in case of rain or poor ground conditions. Where: Sogo Park

What to bring: A kite

*No application required; please go directly to the venue. Participation prizes will be given to the first 400 children on the day. Awards will be given for handmade kites.

Inquiries: Secretariat, Urayasu City Youth Healthy Development Liaison Council (within the Youth Services Section) ☎ 712-6450



A Stroll with the Mayor

A Place that Preserves the Memory of a Fishing Town


When people outside the city are asked what comes to mind when they think of Urayasu, many mention its history as a coastal fishing town, in addition to being a theme park and residential city. At the Folk Museum (Kyodo Hakubutsukan), in addition to exhibits of historical materials, the era of living with the sea is recreated in the outdoor exhibition area. You can play traditional games while walking on Urayasu's unique seashell paths, and even ride an actual Beka-bune boat.

With the complete relinquishment of fishing rights in 1971, Urayasu's fishing industry came to an end (with some exceptions). However, in the Motomachi area, the Former Udagawa Family Residence and Former Otsuka Family Residence are preserved, allowing visitors to feel the remnants of a fishing

town. Additionally, there are places in the Nakamachi and Shinmachi areas that remind us that these areas were a rich sea before the public water reclamation project.

The "Fishery Memorial Monument" in Wakashio Park in Mihama, erected in 1976, features a monument shaped like a Beka-bune boat, conveying those days to the present. In Takasu, there is the Fishery Memorial Park (Gyogyo Kinen Koen). Among the many markers indicating fishing grounds and boundaries, this is the site where the "Ryuuguu-Bongi" (a post for Sujinsai festivals praying for a large catch) once stood. It is a very important place for Urayasu's fishing history. Today, reliefs and monuments are installed there to pass on the history of those times.

Etsushi Uchida, Mayor of Urayasu City



The monument of "Ryuuguu-Bongi"

In the 1970 film "Tora-san, His Tender Love" (Otoko wa Tsurai yo: Bokyo-hen), you can see what Urayasu looked like before the complete relinquishment of fishing rights. Why not watch this movie and walk through the city to experience the atmosphere of a fishing town?

This column was originally published in the December 1, 2025, issue of "Public Relations Urayasu."

●Recyclable Waste Disposal Schedule

Please note that collection will not be conducted on certain days during the year-end and New Year holidays. See page 1 for details.

Collection Area	Combustible garbage	Glass bottles, cans, PET bottles
Nekozane, Kitazakae, Todaijima	Every Mon., Wed. and Fri.	Every Tue.
Kairaku, Mihama, Irifune, Hinode, Akemi		Every Thu.
Horie, Higashino, Fujimi, Maihama, Tekkadori 3-chome	Every Tue., Thu. and Sat.	Every Wed.
Tomioka, Imagawa, Benten, Takasu, Minato, Tekkadori 1- and 2-chome, Chidori		Every Fri.

* Please put out your garbage between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. It is against the rules to put it out earlier or later than this designated time as it could become a nuisance in your neighborhood.

* Bulky items will be collected separately on request by phone. Call the Bulky Items Reception Center ☎ 305-4000. For inquiries, contact the Garbage-Free Section ☎ 712-6467.

FOREIGN RESIDENTS' ASSISTANCE DESK

Urayasu City provides consultation services concerning daily life such as medical, educational or job-related matters.

HOURS: 10 a.m. - 12 noon, 1 - 4 p.m. weekdays

LANGUAGES: English, Chinese, and Japanese

PHONE NUMBER & LOCATION: 712-6910

Urayasu City Hall Local Activities Promotion Section

Foreign Residents Advisory Corner

Hours: Every Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., every Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Languages: English and Japanese

Phone Number & Location: 306-5181, International Center