



## Information on Service in the New Year's Holidays

**Closed** December 29 (Wed) to January 3 (Mon)

- **Service desk services:** Reception for marriage, birth, and death notifications, etc. is available night and day even when city hall is closed. During the following period, you will be unable to use convenience store delivery or multi-functional terminals for printing your family register, resident register, seal impression certificate, tax certificate, or certificate of income.
- **No service period:** December 29 (Wed) to January 3 (Mon)

## Your Individual Number Card Can Be Used as a Health Insurance Card

Starting in October 2021, it is now possible to use your Individual Number Card instead of your health insurance card at some medical institutions and pharmacies by performing "first-time registration" in advance. (The number of participating medical institutions and pharmacies will be increasing over time.)

You can check the list of medical institutions where you can use your Individual Number Card as a health insurance card via the following QR code.

**Note that you will still be able to get treatment, etc. using your standard health insurance card as before.**  
(This article does not mean you are no longer able to use your health insurance card.)



MHLW  
website

## "First-Time Registration" Is Necessary to Use This Service

First-time registration can be performed with a smartphone or personal computer (for the latter you will need a card reader).

### Procedure

- 1 Use your smartphone (Individual Number Card reader terminal) or PC to access the "Mynportal (My Number Portal)"
  - 2 Click "Register" under "Individual Number Card can be used as a Health Insurance Certificate"
  - 3 Read through and confirm the terms of use, etc.
  - 4 Scan your Individual Number Card and enter your four-digit user verification digital certificate password
- Application complete!

Smartphone  
access  
here!



If you don't have a smartphone or a compatible model, you can easily register by either of the following methods.

- 1 7-11 (convenience store) ATMs
- 2 Medical institutions or pharmacies with card reader devices including facial recognition for Individual Number Card scanning

### Inquiries

**National Health Insurance and Pension, Health Insurance and Pension (Hoken Nenkin Ka)**  
TEL.0748-69-2140 FAX.0748-63-4618

## Have You Registered for Account Transfer Yet?

Koka City seeks to encourage its residents to pay their municipal taxes and utility bills by direct deposit.

**Convenient** There's no more need to travel to City Hall or to a bank each time a payment is due. Just fill out the form for automatic transfer (direct deposit) and from next year on it will be updated automatically.

**Safe** You don't need to carry cash around with you.

**Reliable** It's impossible to forget to make a payment, and you can check your payment history with the record in your passbook.

**Registration Procedure** Fill out the necessary information on the direct deposit application form available in your local bank or other financial institution, and after affixing your seal (the same one for your passbook), submit it directly to the counter of the financial institution where you wish to make the transfer. Normally, payment will begin from the month after you make the application.

**Compatible Financial Institutions** Shiga Bank, Kansai Mirai Bank, Koka Agricultural Cooperative, Koto Shinkin Bank, Shiga Prefecture Credit Union, Bank of Kyoto, Kinki Rokin, Green Omi Agricultural Cooperative, Shiga Kenmin Credit Union, Japan Post Bank, post office

**Inquiries** Tax Filing Office, Taxation Affairs (Zeimu Ka) TEL.0748-69-2130 FAX.0748-63-4574

# New Year's Holiday: Collection Schedule for Household Garbage and Manure Pumping

## Household Garbage Collection in the New Year's Holidays

- There is a possibility that the volume of waste during the New Year's holidays will be exceptionally large, and the normal collection time and route may be changed significantly. Please make absolutely sure to drop off your garbage at the collection point before 8:00 am. Collection items and collection days may differ from normal, so please check the garbage collection calendar. (The garbage collection calendar can be viewed at City Hall and various Community Civic Centers, or on the website.)
- Household garbage delivery facilities (Eco Stations and the Koka Wide-Area Administrative Kumiai Eisei [Sanitation] Center)

**Closed December 31 to January 3**

\*For the landfill site, please see the garbage collection calendar. \*For sending large-size burnable waste (anything with a combined height, width, and length of 80 cm or more), you need to make a reservation at least one day prior (call 62-5454).

Door-to-door collection of oversized garbage and off-schedule manure pumping at the end of the year is especially busy at the end of the year, so if you need either of these services, please contact the contractor indicated below before the application deadline.

### • New Year's Holiday: Oversized Garbage

Area	Contractor	Collection application deadline	Final collection date
Minakuchi-Shigaraki area	Minakuchi Technos Co., Ltd. (TEL.0748-62-5311)	December 10 (Fri)	December 18 (Sat)
Tsuchiyama district	Hirose Co., Ltd. (TEL.0748-52-0943)	December 22 (Wed), before noon	December 23 (Thu)
Koka-Konan area	Nichiei Hino Co., Ltd. (TEL.0748-53-3941)	December 10 (Fri)	December 23 (Thu)

\*To apply, please go directly to your region's designated contractor.

\*Depending on how busy things are, the schedule may be subject to change, so please contact the contractor sooner rather than later.

## New Year's Holiday: Manure Pumping

Contractor	December	January	District	Neighborhood	
	Off-schedule manure pumping application deadline	Reopening			
Minakuchi Technos Co., Ltd. (TEL.0748-62-1959)	December 10 (Fri)	January 4 (Tue)	Minakuchi	All of Minakuchi-cho	
			Shigaraki	Nagano	KitaShinmachi Kitade-cho Toiya-cho Tojo-cho Hiroshiba-cho Higashi Nihonmaru-cho Kaminihonmaru-cho Shinnihonmaru-cho Minorigaoka-cho Ogama-cho Fukushima-cho Tsuji-cho Nakamachi Baba-cho Honmachi Nakade-cho Motomachi Suehiro-cho Yakiya-cho Asahi-cho Highland-cho Tsukushigaoka-cho
				Eda Koyama Tashiro Hata	
Nichiei Hino Co., Ltd. (TEL.0748-53-3941)	December 3 (Fri)	January 5 (Wed)	Tsuchiyama	Ono School District	
			Koka	Ohara School District (apart from Sagami and Ohara Ichiba) Aburahi School District Sayama School District	
			Konan	All of Konan-cho	
Hirose Co., Ltd. (TEL.0748-52-0943)	December 3 (Fri)	January 4 (Tue)	Tsuchiyama	All areas except Ono School District	
			Koka	Sagami Ohara Ichiba	
			Shigaraki	Nagano	Atago-cho Zaimoku-cho Taisho-cho Shinmachi Matsuo-cho MinamiMatsuo-cho Sakae-cho
Kohara Tarao Kumoi Asamiya					

\*Pumping cannot be performed during the holidays without an appointment, so please contact the collection contractor as soon as possible.

**Inquiries** Waste Management, Consumer and Environmental Protection (Seikatsu Kankyo Ka)  
TEL.0748-69-2145 FAX.0748-63-4582

## Would You Like to Live in Municipal Housing?

**Application Period** December 1 (Wed) to 20 (Mon) ■ Application information will be available from December 1 at Public Housing Construction (Jutaku Kenchiku Ka) in Koka City Hall, as well as the four Community Civic Centers in Koka, Tsuchiyama, Konan, and Shigaraki. You can also access them on the Koka City website.

**How to Apply** Please submit the designated form to Public Housing Construction (Jutaku Kenchiku Ka) in Koka City Hall

**Inquiries** Public Housing, Public Housing Construction (Jutaku Kenchiku Ka) TEL.0748-69-2212 FAX.0748-63-4601

## The Four Habits and Six Measures for Preventing Fires over the Holidays

Now that the weather has started to get really cold, many people are not doubt keeping warm with kerosene stoves or electric heaters. But these heating devices also pose a risk of fire. Due to the business at the end of the year, many people also become careless when it comes to safety. Please put the following habits and countermeasures into practice so you don't start a fire.

### Four Habits

1. Don't smoke—or let your loved ones smoke—in bed.
2. Don't place burnable objects near the stoves or heaters.
3. When using a cooking stove, don't let the flame out of your site.
4. Dust around your power outlets and remove plugs that you are not using.

### Six Measures

1. Use stoves, etc. that have safety features installed.
2. Check your fire alarm regularly and change it once every ten years or so.
3. Keep your room clean and tidy, and use fire-retardant bedsheets, clothing, curtains, etc.
4. Keep a fire extinguisher handy and make sure you know how to use it.
5. Elderly or infirm persons should be prepared by knowing the evacuation routes and methods.
6. Participate in community-wide fire prevention measures like fire prevention drills and going door-to-door.

**Inquiries** Prevention Division, Koka Wide-Area Administrative Kumiai Fire Department Headquarters  
TEL.0748-63-7932 FAX.0748-63-7940

**Special Year-End vigil by the Fire Department**

**Date** December 29 (Wed) and 30 (Thu)

**Please cooperate in the prevention and extinguishing of fires.**

## Pay Your Taxes! Are You Sure You Haven't Forgotten?

In order to ensure fair distribution of the tax burden, both Shiga Prefecture and Koka City will be reinforcing non-payment prevention measures in December.

Koka City will send out demand letters and notices in order to strongly encourage individuals to take the initiative and make sure they are paid up. But if even that doesn't work, the government may be forced to seize savings or wages, search tax evaders' homes, etc. Please double check that you have not forgotten and that you are fully paid up.

**Inquiries** (Municipal taxes) Delinquent Tax Office, Taxation Affairs (Zeimu Ka) TEL.0748-69-2131 FAX.0748-63-4574  
(Prefectural taxes) Koka Taxation Division, Central Shiga Prefectural Taxation Office  
TEL.0748-63-6106 FAX.0748-63-0439

## 2022 Koka City Coming of Age Day Celebrations

The Koka City Coming of Age Ceremony will take place to celebrate those new adults who have turned 20 in the past year.

\*Note that due to novel coronavirus countermeasures, such things as the method of holding the ceremony will be different from normal.

- The venues are separate, but the times for reception and the ceremony, etc. are all as indicated here.

Junior high school attended	Venue
Minakuchi, Minakuchi-higashi, other	Aikoka Citizens' Hall
Tsuchiyama	Hekisui Hall
Shiroyama	
Shigaraki	
Koka	Konan Information and Exchange Center
Konan	

**Inquiries** Youth Development, Social Education (Shakai Kyoiku Sports Ka)  
TEL.0748-69-2248 FAX.0748-69-2293

**Date** January 9 (Sun)

- **Venue Opening, Reception** 1:00 pm
- **Part 1 Commemorative Ceremony** 2:00 pm to 2:30 pm
- **Part 2 Commemorative Event: Gathering of New Adults** 2:40 pm to 3:30 pm (scheduled)

**Venue** In order to ensure social distancing and otherwise observe the Three C's (closed spaces, crowded spaces, close-contact settings), the ceremony will be conducted in three separate venues as per the chart on the right. Please go to the assigned venue based on the junior high school you attended.



**Eligible Persons** Those who were born between April 2, 2001 and April 1, 2002, and meet one of the following conditions:

1. Is a registered resident of Koka City
  2. Does not currently live in Koka City but has attended school in Koka City, or works in Koka City and wants to perform their coming-of-age ceremony in Koka City
- Detailed information can be accessed from the Koka City website or via this QR code.

**Organizer** Coming-of-Age Ceremony Organizing Committee, Koka City Board of Education, Koka City

# Disability Awareness Week Takes Place Every Year from December 3 to December 9

Disability Awareness Week was established with the dual goals of deepening awareness and understanding among the general populace of welfare for those with disabilities and motivating disabled people to participate in activities in all areas of society, economy, culture, and so on.



## Did You Know? This Is the “Help Mark”

You may have seen this symbol on people’s bags or the like around town, but do you know what it means? The Help Mark is a nationwide mark for those who require assistance or consideration from those around them. Out there in the world, there are people with disabilities or other troubles that are not visible at first.

If you see someone with this mark during your daily activities, please give up your seat on the train or bus, and otherwise show a spirit of help and consideration in situations of need.

It is also important to help those with disabilities during extreme circumstances like traffic accidents and natural disasters.

The Help Mark is distributed free of charge to not only people with disabilities but also those with intractable diseases, those in early pregnancy, those with dementia, and others in need.

**Distribution Sites** Services for People with Disabilities (Shogai Fukushi Ka) and Senior Welfare (Choju Fukushi Ka) on the 1st floor of Koka City Hall; the Community Civic Centers in Tsuchiyama, Koka, Konan, and Shigaraki; various Regional Comprehensive Support Centers; the Shiga Prefecture Disabled Persons’ Welfare Division (Prefectural Government Office in Otsu); Koka Public Health Center (Shiga Prefectural Government Koka Joint Office)

### Some people may want to put on masks but can’t

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the habit of wearing a mask when going outside has become commonplace. But within our society, there are people who, even if they want to put on a mask, they can’t because of developmental disabilities, sensory sensitivities, skin and respiratory diseases, or the like. Some of these people get funny looks from people for not wearing a mask, and experience great difficulty in their daily lives.

Let’s take this opportunity to each and every one of us learn that “some people just can’t wear masks” and build the kind of community that everyone can live in comfortably.

## There are various different kinds of disabilities, and even a particular type of disability differs from person to person.

### Visual impairment

There are various levels of visual impairment, with some people being unable to see anything at all and others having a narrow field of vision. Please refrain from placing objects or standing on or near Braille signs or Braille blocks.



### Hearing impairment

There are various levels of hearing impairment, with some people being unable to hear anything at all and others hearing noise. Please watch how you communicate, such as by written communication, sign language, or lipreading.



### Physical handicap

Some people have impairments in their hands/arms (upper body) or legs/feet (lower body), trunk, or the like, and are restricted in their movement to the point of needing to use a wheelchair, artificial arm or leg, or other artificial joints. Let’s try to show compassion and build an environment where everyday activities are easy for everyone to perform.



### Mental impairment

Some people experience great difficulty in their daily lives and interactions with others due to a mental disability such as schizophrenia or depression. Make sure to interact with people like this with a smile on your face so that they don’t become uncomfortable.



### Intellectual impairment

Impairment of intellectual functioning may appear during the developmental period. When talking to such a person, speak slowly and carefully, and use pictures and graphs to make it easier for them to understand.



### Internal disability

“Some people are immunocompromised due to problems with their heart, respiratory organs, kidneys, bladder, rectum, small intestine, or liver, or because of an underlying condition like HIV. They can be affected by those around them, so when you are in a public space, make sure to follow the rules regarding smoking, cellphone use, and so on.”



## December After-hours Counter (every Tuesday until 7:00 pm) : December 7, 14, 21, 28.

Every Tuesday the Koka City Hall Citizens' Affairs (Shimin Ka) is open until 7:00 pm, so you can complete administrative procedures such as having certificates issued (family register, resident register, tax certificate, etc.) or registering your personal seal.

\*There are some procedures that cannot be done at the After-hours Counter. Please call or fax the numbers listed below to find out which procedures are handled at this counter.

### Notice from Maina-chan

You can use your Individual Number Card to get a copy of various certificates at convenience stores. (Check the list below for the applicable certificates.)



**Inquiries** Citizens' Affairs (Shimin Ka) TEL.0748-69-2138 FAX.0748-65-6338

## December Tax Payments

The due date for tax payments this month is January 4 (Tue).

Please use the convenient direct debit system for your tax payments.

- Property Tax (3rd installment)
- National Health Insurance tax (7th installment)
- User fees (Nursery school fees, Kindergarten and Nursery school lunch fees)
- Nursing-care insurance premium (7th installment)
- Medical Insurance premiums for older senior citizens
- Water rates

### Consultation content/Contact

### Date

### Time

### Location

#### Life and Work Consultations (Public Assistance Counter)\*

Advice is available for concerns about daily life and work.

\*No need to apply Responders: Consultation support staff, and employment support staff

**Contact** Public Assistance, Public Assistance (Seikatsu Shien Ka)

TEL.0748-69-2158 / FAX.0748-63-4085

Every week, from Monday to Friday (except public holidays)

8:30 am to 5:15 pm

Public Assistance Desk, Public Assistance (Seikatsu Shien Ka), Koka City Hall

#### Consumer Affairs Consultations

Advice is available for concerns about consumer affairs, such as products, purchase agreements and other contracts.

You may be directed to the Shiga Prefecture Consumer Center.

Responders: Consumer affairs counsellors

**Contact** Consumer Life Center (Shouhi Seikatsu Center)

TEL.0748-69-2147 (Consumer Hotline) / TEL.188 (no area code)

Every week, from Monday to Friday (except public holidays)

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Consumer Life Center (Shouhi Seikatsu Center), 1F, Koka City Hall

#### Pension Consultations

Consultations: Kusatsu Pension Office staff

\*By appointment only, first-come-first-served basis

**Contact** Appointments Kusatsu Pension Office

TEL.077-567-1311 (for appointments) / FAX.077-562-9638 (for appointments)

January 13 (Thu)  
\*Held every second month

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Middle Meeting Room, 2F Minakuchi Social Welfare (Shakai Fukushi) Center

#### School-age Children Consultations

This consultation counter is for school-age children (elementary to high school) and their parents/guardians and other family members. Why don't we think about school, life, and parenting together?

Responders: Counsellors for school-age children

**Contact** Child Rearing Policy, Child Rearing Policy (Kosodate Seisaku Ka)

TEL.0748-69-2176 / FAX.0748-69-2298

Every week, on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday (except public holidays)

8:30 am to 5:15 pm

Child Rearing Policy (Kosodate Seisaku Ka), 2F, Koka City Hall  
You can also make inquiries by telephone or by the Child-Rearing Concierge Inquiry Form.



#### Parenting and Study Consultations\*

We are ready to listen and offer advice on matters about your child's development and emotional/mental concerns.

\*Please make an appointment by phone or fax.

Eligible: Generally children aged 4 years or older, elementary and middle & senior high school students, adolescents and young adults (up to around 25 years old)

\*For consultations regarding children aged 4 or young, please contact the Health Support (Sukoyaka Shien Ka) on 69-2169.

**Contact** Appointments Development Support (Hattatsu Shien Ka)

TEL.0748-69-2178 / FAX.0748-69-2298 (Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm)

Kindergartens/nurseries and schools, Koka City Hall, etc.

#### Youth Concerns Consultations\*

We are ready to listen and offer advice on matters concerning young people, including school absenteeism, bullying, misbehaving, delinquency, friendships, and pursuing further education or finding work.

\* From Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (except public holidays and end-of-year holidays). Consultations can also be made by phone and email.

**Contact** Youth (Shonen) Center (2F Annex, Minakuchi Central Community Center (2F Minakuchi Chuo Kominkan Bekkan))

TEL.0748-62-6010

FAX.0748-63-3977

Email: k-syonen@city.koka.lg.jp



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(except for the After-hours Counter on Tuesday)

Please check the Koka City website and Facebook page for information.

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<https://www.city.koka.lg.jp/>

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