



OCTOBER 2026 Newsletter 10月 English Version



Disaster Preparedness Feature

✧ Preparation in case of disaster starts with routine preparation. ✧

When the disaster happens, where will you evacuate to?

Recently, our life is affected by disasters more and more, because of natural disasters, such as earthquakes and heavy rain occurring all over the country. In our city, when the Nankai Trough Earthquake happens, a maximum seismic intensity of upper 6 and damage by Tsunami is expected. To react without any rush or panic when the disaster happens, it is important for us to think ahead of time about where to evacuate to and what we will do afterwards, considering yourself and your family's situations. To confirm your readiness the readiness and to act with confidence when the disaster happens, please read this article until the end.

Place where we protect our life “Emergency Evacuation Site/避難地” and place where we will live life “Evacuation Shelter/避難所” and “In-home evacuation/在宅避難”

When a big earthquake has occurred, where to evacuate will depend on the situation of your house and surroundings.

If there were to be any danger in the surroundings or at your home, the places that can act as protection temporarily are the Emergency Evacuation Site, such as school's sports fields. And if there wasn't any danger of disaster, the area where people that are unable to live in their home could live for a certain period of time, is an evacuation shelter, such as a school's gym. An evacuation shelter is a place where people live together, so it is definitely not a comfortable place.

On the other hand, if the home was safe, there is an opportunity to stay living in the home, which is called “In-home evacuation”. But, for in-home evacuation, preparation at home is necessary. Especially, securing food, water and toilet, and also preparations that are based on number of family members and living conditions. With the comprehensive disaster preparedness drill coming up on 18th of October, this feature will talk about what it's really like in the evacuation shelter, and key points for in-home evacuation.

What is an evacuation shelter like?

Evacuation shelter is a place where people who are unable to live at their house can live, until the recovery of houses and building temporary houses finish.

In evacuation shelters, there are food, water, blankets, partitions, and other supplies that are the absolute minimum for living. Information will also be provided that are related to rebuilding lives. An evacuation shelter is a place to support disaster victims' lives.

In evacuation shelters, volunteer disaster prevention organizations will take the lead, and city, facility managers and each individual evacuee is expected to collaborate and operate. Knowing the features of the evacuation shelter is one of the important steps to prepare the environment that you and your family will stay in when the disaster occurs.



Scan for more information
about Evacuation shelter

In evacuation shelters, it is necessary to proceed with various kinds of work simultaneously, such as creating registration lists at reception desk, organizing evacuation areas, distributing the supplies, providing information, and supporting vulnerable people. To operate smoothly, dividing the role, ensuring a flow line, and sharing information are necessary.



Do you know?

What's in and What's missing in Evacuation Shelters • Disaster Preparedness Warehouse

In evacuation shelters or disaster preparedness warehouses, there are various types of emergency supplies that are helpful during the disaster. It is important to know what is available and how to use each of them.

In this section, we will introduce about part of the emergency supplies.

For more information, please check the city's website.



website



Portable toilets; toilets that are able to be used with water outage or other reasons. It will solidify the waste with coagulant, and it can be stored and disposed of hygienically.



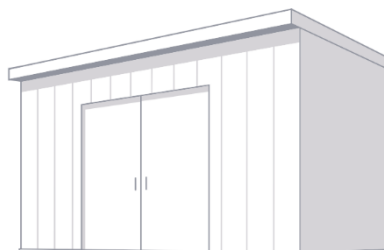
Partitions will ensure privacy by dividing the evacuation space and shutting down the view from its surroundings.



Cardboard bed. It will soften the hardness and coldness of the floor, and it will support life in evacuation shelters.



Since there are so many types of medical supplies and they cannot address individual symptoms, we do not keep a stockpile of over the counter medications, prescription drugs, or medical supplies for individual use.



The truth of evacuation supplies

Evacuation supplies that are stocked in evacuation shelters are primarily intended for "immediate response" to support our life immediately after the disaster.

Amount and types of evacuation supplies depends on each of the evacuation shelter, and not all of the evacuees are able to gain enough supplies. To live with relief, preparing at home is necessary.

Your home could be an evacuation shelter?!

The option of staying home during an emergency/在宅避難

In the event of a disaster, going to an evacuation shelter is not the only way to evacuate. If your home is safe, you can choose to “in-home evacuation” and continue living in the environment you’re familiar with. “in-home evacuation” could avoid crowds, allowing people to maintain their privacy and daily routines. In addition, “in-home evacuation” helps to reduce the physical and mental strain compared to staying in evacuation shelters. However, if you want to choose “in-home evacuation”, there are several requirements to meet.

Firstly, check if the home is safe

- Check the major damage to the building
- Check for any risks of flooding or landslides
- Make sure you have enough food for about seven days
- Check the situation of utilities.



In-home evacuation readiness check



CHECK

If your utilities were to be cut off tomorrow, - Would you be able to shelter in place at home?-

Check the safety of the home and surrounding area, as well as your emergency supplies, to make sure you’re prepared to shelter in place.



Toilet

- Equipped with portable toilet
- Ensure the portable toilet is enough for all of the members of family
- Know what to do when toilet is out of order

Water/Foods/Medicines

- Have stockpiled at least a 7-day supply of drinking water and food
- Have food that can be eaten without cooking
- Have cooking equipment, such as a portable gas stove
- Have food and medication tailored to family’s needs

Electricity/Information

- Equipped with mobile batteries
- Have flashlights and lanterns
- Have access to sources of information, such as the radio
- Know where to get information during a disaster

Housing/Family

- Take measures to prevent furniture from tipping over or falling
- Being aware of hazardous areas around the home
- Decided method for knowing family’s safety and meeting place
- Determined how to support family members who require special care

Let’s build strength to protect our lives

Disasters can strike at any time and are always close to our daily lives. Understanding how evacuation shelters work and being aware of the option “in-home evacuation” helps you develop the mental preparedness needed to protect yourself and your family. Evacuation shelters are crowded with lots of people and limited staff who are operating with limited supplies. Rather than relying on them, it is important to first consider how to protect your own life.

If your house is safe, you can choose “in-home evacuation” and continue living in the environment you’re familiar with. Checking the condition of the building, risks to surroundings, situation of lifeline and understanding the regional risks by checking the hazard map will be an opportunity to reevaluate your daily life. Asking yourself “Is my home really safe”, “Do I have everything that I need” will contribute to resilience in the face of disasters.

Furthermore, portable toilets which are essential during water outages and stockpiles of water and food are the very embodiment of “self-reliance” which protects our lives in emergencies. Preparedness is not special; it is simply an extension of our daily lives.

We will hold a comprehensive disaster preparedness drill on Sunday, October 18. Why not take this opportunity to participate in the drill and review your daily preparedness measures and actions to take during a disaster?



See the city's information at a glance! Numazu city disaster prevention portal



■ Check emergency information

You can check evacuation information and other information issued by the city.

■ Check traffic restriction information

You can view information about road traffic restrictions and their lifting on a map.

■ Check disaster risks and available evacuation shelters

The map displays areas subject to evacuation orders and other measures using alert-level colors. You can also check the locations of available evacuation shelters.

■ View hazard map

You can view various hazard maps.

Contact: ☎ 055-934-4803 Crisis Management Division (*Kiki kanri-ka*)

✂ Take Action to reduce waste and save our future ✂

October is 3R promotion month. "3R" is about Reducing waste, Reusing things, and Recycling resources. Why not start with what you can do in your daily life and practice environmentally friendly actions?

Avoid generating unnecessary waste (Reduce)

- Avoid taking unnecessary things.
- Use your own bag, water bottle, and chopsticks etc.
- Choose products with simple packaging.
- Buy items individually or sold by weight to reduce waste.
- Take good care of your belongings by maintaining and repairing.



website

Use repeatedly as resource (Recycle)

- Sort and dispose of your recyclable waste.
- Opt for recycled products when available.



Use it repeatedly (Reuse)

- Choose returnable containers. (containers that are collected by retailers, like beer bottles, and then washed and reused by specialized companies.)
- Choose products that come in refillable containers.
- Pass on unneeded toys, clothing, etc. to those who need them.
- Reuse unwanted items by utilizing the reuse platform "Oikura /おいくら, Numazu City "mercari chops" which have a partnership agreement with Numazu City, and secondhand shops nearby.

*Please visit city's website for more details.

Contact: ☎ 055-933-0711 Clean Center (*Clean Center*)

✧ Applications for the change of designated school for new elementary/junior high school students (指定校変更/Shiteiko Henko) for the Reiwa 9 fiscal year ✧

What: You can make a request to go to a school adjacent to the designated school based on your address. This is the final application period, so don't forget to apply.

How to: Please apply online or send in an application form, available on the city's website by post. Applications must arrive on/before Friday, November 6.

*Please contact us or visit the city's website for more details.

Apply/Contact: ☎ 055-934-4808/ 〒410-8601 Numazu Shiyakusho, School Education Division (*Gakko Kyoiku-ka*)



Dedicated form



website

✧ City's Scholarships Program ✧

Eligibility: Those whose parents live in the city, are planning to enroll in a high school etc. in April 2027, have an excellent academic performance and need financial support.

Amount: 70,000 yen for enrollment preparation (No repayment required)

Capacity: 20 people (selected by the scholarship selection committee)

How to apply: Submit the required documents in person, by post or through your school by Friday, December 25.

*Scholarship application forms and scholarship recommendation forms can be found at each junior high school, School Facilities Division at 7th floor, City Hall or downloaded from the city's website.

*Please visit the city's website for more details.

Apply/Contact: ☎055-934-4805 School Facilities Division (*Gakko Shisetsu-ka*)
〒410-8601 Numazu City Hall



website

✧ 2026 NICE Nihongo Speech Contest Listeners ✧

Foreigners present their daily feelings, etc. in Japanese. Come and listen to the contestants' thoughts and views.

Date: October 24 (Sat) 14:00 - 16:30

Where: Numazu City Library, Audio-Visual Hall

Contact: ☎ 055-934-4717 Numazu Association for International Communications and Exchanges/Regional Autonomy Division (*NICE/Chiiki Jichi-ka*)

✧ International Fair in Numazu ✧

This event brings together foreigners and Japanese residents in the community to interact and experience diverse cultures. It features displays and hands-on experiences of cultures from around the world and Japan, along with sales of cuisine, accessories, and other goods. Stage events such as folk dances will also be held.

When: Sunday, November 15, 10:00 – 14:30

Where: Plaza Verde Convention Hall A-1

Contact: ☎ 055-934-4717 Regional Autonomy Division (*Chiiki Jichi-ka*)

✧ November 2 (Mon): Deadline for the 3rd term of Property tax and City planning tax payment ✧

Please pay the tax by the deadline.

■Nighttime consultation for payment of city tax

When: October 29 (Thu), 17:15 – 19:00

Where: Tax Payment Management Division, 2nd floor, City Hall

Contact: ☎055-934-4732 Tax Payment Management Division (*Nozei Kanri-ka*)

✧ November 2 (Mon): Deadline for the 4th term of National Health Insurance Premium ✧

Please pay the tax by the deadline.

■Nighttime consultation for the payment of national health insurance premium

When: October 29 (Thu), 17:15 - 19:00

Where: National Health Insurance Division, 1st floor, City Hall

Contact: ☎055-934-4727 National Health Insurance Division (*Kokumin Kenko Hoken-ka*)

✧ Nighttime consultation for payment of water bills ✧

When: October 27 (Tue), 17:15 – 20:00

Where: Water Service Division, 1st floor, Water Works Department Building

Contact: ☎ 055-934-4853 Water Service Division (*Suido Service-ka*)



✧ From October 1: Exemption system for National Pension premiums during the child-rearing period ✧

A new system will be introduced that exempts Category 1 National Pension insured people from paying National Pension premiums during the period they are raising a child (both biological and adopted) up to one year old.

Eligible: For parents or adoptive parents who are Category 1 National pension insured people and are raising a child up to one year old.

Exemption period: Up to 12 months, from the month the child is born until the month before their first birthday.

How to apply: Those who have a MyNumer Card can apply electronically through the Myna Portal. Applications can also be submitted at pension offices, city halls, and each satellite city office.

*Please contact us or visit city's website for more details.

Contact: ☎ 055-934-4724 Citizens' Division (*Shimin-ka*)



website

✧ Free consultation for Foreign Residents ✧

We offer consultation services to foreigners who are experiencing difficulties in their daily lives.

When: October 18 (Sun), 13:30 – 16:00 (Reception hours: 13:00 – 15:30)

Where: Sanwell Numazu

Contents: Legal issues, labor problems, immigration procedures, international marriage, and administrative consultation etc.

Eligibility: Foreigners and those related

Counselor: Administrative scrivener, lawyer, labor and social security attorney

Interpreter: English, Chinese, Spanish, and Portuguese. Video interpretation for other languages is also available.

How to apply: By phone or in person by October 16 (Fri) at 17:00

*Please bring along any documents related to the consultation.

*Japanese people can also participate.

*Receptions on the day are possible depending on availability.

Apply/Contact: ☎055-934-4717 Regional Autonomy Division (*Chiiki Jichi-ka*)



✧ The area where public sewerage can be used expand from November ✧

Public sewers will be available in parts of the following areas, so please connect as soon as possible.

District	Target area (in part)
Daigo Chiku	Sanmaibashi, Ooka (<i>Takenomisaki</i>), Nishisawada
Ooka Chiku	Ooka (<i>Heiwakyo</i> , <i>Ekimaecho</i>)
Kadoike Chiku	Okanomiya
Kanaoka Chiku	Higashikumando
Katahama Chiku	Ozuwa, Matsunaga



website

*Please visit the city's website for more details.

Contact: ☎ 055-934-4864 Sewerage Maintenance Division (*Gesuido Seibi-ka*)

✧ Application for participation in Coming of Age Ceremony (*Hatachi no Tsudoï*) ✧

The Coming of Age Ceremony which will be held in Reiwa 9 is for people who were born between April 2, Heisei 18 (2006), and April 1, Heisei 19 (2007). A letter of invitation will be mailed in mid-December to those who are eligible and have registered in Numazu city. Those who wish to attend the Coming of Age Ceremony and who meet the following conditions are required to apply in advance.

- People who are currently registered as residents outside the city.
- Those who live in the city and wish to attend the ceremony in a junior high school district that is different from their current address

How to apply: Apply online through the city's website, or fill out an application form available on the city website with all required information and send it via email by Friday, December 11.

*Please visit the city's website for more details.

Apply/Contact: ☎ 055-934-4871 Lifelong Learning Division (*Shogai Gakushu-ka*)



website

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Translation in part by Gyoshu High School Students