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# Follow the rules for bicycling!

A system in which “fines” are imposed on bicycle traffic violations will begin on April 1, 2026.

Fines are applicable to persons age 16 and above.

■ Use of a mobile phone is prohibited while riding a bicycle.



Fine: 12,000 yen

■ Holding up an umbrella is prohibited while riding a bicycle.

Fine: 5,000 yen

■ Riding bicycles parallel with others is prohibited.

Fine: 3,000 yen

■ Two people riding one bicycle together is prohibited.

Fine: 3,000 yen

■ Bicycles are to be ridden on the left side of the road. Riding on the right side is a violation.

Fine: 6,000 yen

■ Riding a bicycle after drinking alcohol is prohibited.

Driving under the influence of alcohol: Imprisonment for 3 years or less or a fine of 500,000 yen or less  
Drunkenness: Imprisonment for 5 years or less or a fine of 1 million yen or less



■ When riding a bicycle, be sure to stop at stop signs, and check whether it is safe on both the right and left sides before proceeding. If you don't stop, it will be a violation.



Fine: 5,000 yen

■ If it gets dark, you must turn on your bicycle light or it will be a violation. If you don't turn the light on, it is difficult to be seen by others in the surrounding area, so it is dangerous as it is easy to get into an accident.



Fine: 5,000 yen

If you cause a traffic accident, promptly call 110 (police) and wait until a policeman comes!

Tochigi Prefectural  
Police Headquarters  
Traffic Rule Flyer  
(for bicycles)



English & Chinese



Spanish & Portuguese

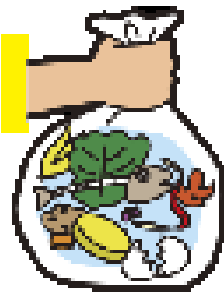
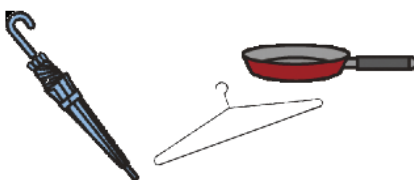
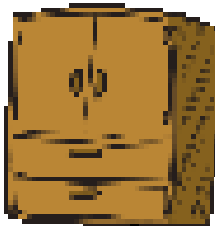
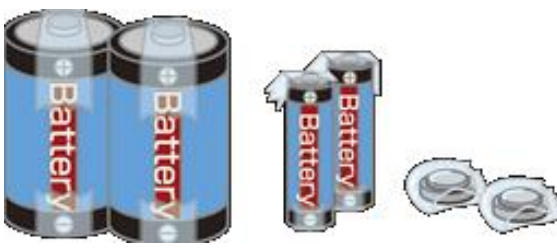



Vietnamese & Urdu

# Garbage Separation & Disposal Methods

In this month's issue, you can learn how to separate and dispose of garbage (5 types below).

(Please refer to the Utsunomiya City International Association's website (Oh-i! December 2025 edition page 2) to review about the separation and disposal methods for recyclable materials.)

Combustible garbage	Incombustible garbage	Oversized garbage
<p>(Combustible garbage under 50 cm in length)</p>  <p>⇒ Put out in a plastic bag. Completely remove moisture from kitchen waste. Flush diaper excretion down the toilet. Cut tree branches to be less than 50 cm in length and tie them together in a bundle.</p>	<p>(Incombustible garbage under 50 cm in length: Pottery, glass bottles, aluminum cans, glass products, pots, umbrellas, and household appliances less than 50 cm in length other than recyclable items)</p>  <p>⇒ Put out in a plastic bag. Tie umbrellas together in a bundle of up to 3 with string for disposal.</p>	<p>(Garbage 50 – 2.4 m in length and 100 kg or less in weight)</p>  <p>⇒ If you take it to a cleaning center, there is no charge. If you can't take it in, call the Oversized Garbage Collection Center (028-643-5371) to have them come pick it up. However, there will be a charge. (840 yen per item, with a maximum of 5 items at one time.)</p>
Hazardous garbage (Batteries, etc.)		Hazardous garbage (Other dangerous garbage, etc.)
<p>(Dry cell batteries, coin batteries, electronic cigarettes, button batteries, mobile batteries, etc.)</p>  <p>⇒ Put out in a plastic bag. Put tape over the + and - electrodes of batteries and put them out in a separate bag from other hazardous garbage.</p>		<p>(Light bulbs, fluorescent light tubes, mercury thermometers, cutting items, spray cans, lighters, etc.)</p>  <p>⇒ Put out in a plastic bag. Use spray cans until the gas is completely gone, make holes in them outside, and dispose of them. Wrap blades in paper or cloth for disposal.</p>
<p>※Please use transparent or semi-transparent plastic bags.</p>		

▼ Please refer to the next issue for “Recyclable items” and “Recyclables and Garbage that isn’t collected or disposed of in Utsunomiya City” other than the 5 types of garbage shown above.

[Inquiries] Waste Reduction Division (Gomi Genryo-ka) Separation = 028-632-2414 Collection = 028-632-2423

## International Exchange Salon 🎵

🕒 Every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday 4:00PM - 6:00PM

April 25 (Sat)

😊 An opportunity to enjoy interacting with people from various countries.

**Cost** Free

@ Utsunomiya International Plaza (4-1-1 Baba-dori)

☎ 028-616-1563



## Japanese Film Theater

🕒 April 17 (Fri) 10:00AM

April 18 (Sat) 2:00PM

😊 "Midnight Dinner"  
("Shinya Shokudo")



**Cost** Free

**Limit** First 50 people

**Sign up** Not required

Admission ticket distribution starts 30 minutes before the film

@ Audiovisual Library in the East Library (Higashi Toshokan 2F Shichoukaku Library) (3-5-1 Nakaimaizumi)

☎ 028-638-5704

## Tochigi Korea Festival 2026

🕒 April 26 (Sun) 11:00AM - 5:00PM

😊 • Kimchi-making workshop (Cost 500 yen)  
(First 20 persons, admission ticket distribution starts at 10:30)

• Stage performances  
• Food & beverage booths, etc.

**Cost** Free admission

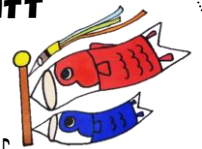
@ Orion Square (8-3 Eno-machi)

☎ Tochigi Korea Festival 2026 Executive Committee  
028-622-7777

## Carp Streamer Craft

🕒 April 29 (Wed) & 30 (Thurs)  
10:30AM - 12:00PM

😊 Try making a carp streamer 🎵



**For** Parents and their children who are not yet attending preschool who live in or work in Utsunomiya City

**Cost** Free

**Limit** First 10 pairs on the day of the event

@ Youth Activity Center, Play House (Seishonen Katsudo Center, Asobo no Ie) (3007 Imaizumi-cho)

☎ 028-663-3155  
028-632-2944 (Child Policy Division)  
(Kodomo Seisaku-ka)

## Give a Glass Bottle on Mother's Day

🕒 May 9 (Sat) 10:30AM - 12:00PM  
2:00PM - 3:30PM



😊 Make an original work of art to express your gratitude 🎵

**For** Infants and above

**Cost** 300 yen

First 15 people for each session

**Sign up** Starting April 24 at 9:30AM at the Kawachi

@ Library or by phone

Kawachi Library (3397 Nakaokamoto-cho)

☎ 028-673-6782

## Nature Challenge in Kawachi: Rice Planting

🕒 May 17 (Sun) 9:30AM - 1:00PM

😊 Try doing a real rice planting experience!

**For** Parents and children living in Utsunomiya City

**Sign up** By April 20 via postcard

**Cost** 1,000 yen

**Limit** 50 people by lottery

@ Kawachi Rural Experience Exchange Center (Kawachi Nouson Taiken Kouryukan) (2843 Sagehashi-cho)

☎ Agricultural Planning Division (Nogyo Kikaku-ka) 028-632-2475

## Interview

# Thuy of Vietnam



We asked Thuy of Vietnam about tourism in Vietnam, learning Japanese, difficulties raising children, what she would like to see improved, what she wants to do in the future, etc.

**Xin chào** (“Hello” in Vietnamese)

Thuy came to Japan 12 years ago.

**UCIA: What kind of tourism is there in Viet Nam?**

Thuy: Hanoi’s Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum is a very important place where Ho Chi Minh, who is loved as the father of the Vietnamese people, sleeps. You can enjoy a relaxing view of the scenery in a cyclo bicycle taxi. Chantien ice cream with various flavors is popular.

**UCIA: What kind of place is your hometown?**

Thuy: I was born in Hai Phong, a port town in northeastern Vietnam. The city is growing economically every year and has a population of about 2.02 million, but it has beaches, islands, and forests, and the nature is beautiful. Seafood and bánh đa cua (crab soup) are delicious.

**UCIA: Your Japanese is very good. Where did you study Japanese?**

Thuy: First, I studied intensively at a Japanese language school in Vietnam for three months. After coming to Utsunomiya, for one year and three months I attended a Japanese language school, and even when I became a university student and member of society, I still have continued to make an effort to get up at 5 o’clock to read Japanese books and practice writing.

**UCIA: Are you having any difficulties raising children?**

Thuy: I have sons ages 8 and 3, and ask the teachers about things I don’t understand, but there are so many documents for elementary school and preschool that I sometimes get confused even if I can read the Japanese. I don’t know how Japanese schools are run, so it’s quite difficult for me.

**UCIA: Is there something you would like to see improved?**

Thuy: I would like contact that is made with me to be done briefly in “Easy Japanese” for only the necessary information from schools and government offices.

**UCIA: How do you think that Utsunomiya has changed compared to how it was 12 years ago?**

Thuy: With the LRT, transportation has improved and the number of parks and playgrounds have increased, so it has become more convenient. The number of foreigners has also increased.

**UCIA: Is there something you want to do in the future?**

Thuy: I would like to create an English circle where children and adults can talk, play, and have fun while speaking English.

UCIA: **Thuy, Cảm ơn!** (Thank you!)

## Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP) Services

### General consultation in various languages



		Spanish	Portuguese	Vietnamese	Chinese	Thai	English
<b>UIP</b> ☎028-616-1564	3:00PM – 6:00PM	Mon	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon		Tues	Wed	Fri
		4 <sup>th</sup> Sun (by appointment only)					
<b>City Hall</b> ☎028-632-2834 (Business hours only)	9:00AM - 12:00PM	Thurs	—	—	—	—	Thurs
	2:00PM - 5:00PM	Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs	1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs	—	—

Clipart provision: Saya Kaneko, Yurika Usui, Natsuki Nemoto

## UCIA’s official LINE account

We send out information on fun exchange events and everyday life information. Please register as a “Friend” to use it as an information gathering tool.



“Oh-ii!” is available in easy Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Thai, and Vietnamese. You can also read it on the Utsunomiya International Exchange Association’s (UCIA’s) website at <https://www.ucia.or.jp>

