



# HAMURA NEWS



Published by: Hamura City

Edited by: Hisho Kouhou Ka (Secretary & Public Information Section)

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April 15th, 2026

## PICK UP NEWS

環境問題に楽しく向き合おう ミニ環境展

### <Let's Have Fun Learning About Environment Issues

### Mini Environment Exhibition>

Inquiries: Kankyou Seisaku Ka ☎ Ext. 227.

/Co-hosted by: Eco-Net Hamura, Megumi Net Hamura, and Hamura City.

Let's see, touch, and experience how to utilize renewable energy!

Date & Time: May 10th (Sun), 9:30AM ~ 3PM.

Location: Primo Hall Yutorogi Exhibition Room.



展示

### ★ EXHIBITON ★

① **Power Generation and Consumption by Yourself!** [Power Saving at Home]

Let's experience portable storage batteries for home use, etc., and build a power saving station!

② **Cooking with the Power of the Sun!** [Solar Cookers get together]

Let's make a [Foldable Solar Cooker]!

You can take your solar cooker home! (Capacity: First 10)

③ **Eco-friendly use of daily food scraps!** [Composting food scraps]

Learn how to compost food scraps and use them in an eco-friendly way!

④ **Let's play with acorns!**

Let's make a spinning top out of an acorn and give it a spin!

講習会

### ★ WORKSHOP ★

**[Green Curtain Workshop]**

グリーンカーテン講習会

Time: 10AM ~ 11AM

Capacity: 30 (in application order).

Benefits: Participants will receive a passion fruit seedling as a gift.

**[Cardboard Compost Making Workshop]**

ダンボールコンポスト作成講習会

Time: 1:30PM ~ 2:30PM

Capacity: 10 (in the order of applicaiton).

### Workshop application

April 16th (Thu) 8:30AM ~ May 7th (Thu) 3PM, via application form or call to Kankyou Seisaku Ka.

シリーズ環境を考える なるほど、そうだったのか

### <The 119th Series Thinking about the Environment>

~ **One-Fourth of all food is being thrown away!** 「食料の4分の1が捨てられている!!」

Cool: We're currently facing a [climate crisis] caused by greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide, right?

Actually, a lot of greenhouse gases are emitted during food processing, too.

Eco : So we're emitting a lot of greenhouse gases just to make food?

Cool: That's right. The processes involved in getting food to you ~ including production, processing, packaging, distribution, and storage ~ account for as much as one-third of all greenhouse gas emissions caused by human activity.

Eco : What? Just food-related stuff, and that much? But we can't just stop eating.

Cool: Here's the thing, though. About a quarter of that food ends up being thrown away.



Eco : A quarter of the food is wasted!! What a waste!

Cool: Yeah, it's shocking, isn't it? When we think of things that emit greenhouse gases, airplanes using fossil fuels come to mind, but apparently, the greenhouse gas emissions from global food waste are equivalent to five times the emissions from flying airplanes.

Eco : Five times! I would've thought flying airplanes would produce more...

Cool: In 2023, Japan's food waste totaled 4.64 million tons (businesses: 2.31 million tons, households: 2.33 million tons). The economic loss is said to be as high as JPY4 trillion. That works out to about JPY31,000 per person.

Eco : That really is such a waste! Plus, that means if we reduce food waste, we'll also reduce greenhouse gas emissions, right?

Cool: Exactly. That's why we shouldn't buy too much or cook too much. We should use every part of vegetables, like the peels, to minimize waste. When eating out, we shouldn't leave leftovers. And when shopping, we should "take from the front". It's important for each of us to put these practices into action.

Eco : We "take from the front" because unsold items get thrown away, right? I'll do all of that!

Inquiries: Kankyou Seisaku Ka ☎Ext. 227.



障害のある方へ 各種手当・助成制度各種手当・助成制度

## WELFARE ALLOWANCES/SUBSIDIES for PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

Inquiries: Shougai Fukushi Ka, Shougai Fukushi Kakari ☎Ext.173.

The following is an overview of the various allowances and subsidy programs available to persons with disabilities. Please note that each allowance and subsidy is subject to income limits and eligibility restrictions.

| Allowances   | Eligibility  | Requirements for procedure   |
|--|--|--|
| Tokubetsu Shougaiasha Teate<br>(Special Allowance for the Disabled)<br>JPY30,450 / month   | Age 20 years or older, and requires special support/care at all times due to severe disability.  | Please inquiry.  |
| Shougaiji Fukushi Teate<br>(Welfare Allowance for Disabled Children)<br>JPY16,560 / month  | For those who have not reached 20 years old, and requires special support/care at all times due to severe disability.  |  |
| Juudo Shinshin Shougaiasha Teate<br>(Allowance for Persons with Severe Physical and Mental Disability)<br>JPY60,000 / month                                  | Person with severe impairment of intelligence, in constant care needs and unable to stay in a sitting position due to limb and trunk dysfunction.<br>*Those 65 or older cannot become certified.   |  |
| Shinshin Shougaiasha Fukushi Teate<br>(Welfare Allowance for Physically or Mentally Disabled) [Provided by Tokyo Metropolitan Government]<br>JPY15,500/month | Age 20 years or older, being cared at home, and holds Physical Disability Certificate grade1~2 or Certificate for persons with Mental Deficiency grade 1~3, or person with brain paralysis or progressive muscular atrophy.<br>*Those 65 or older cannot become certified. | . Physical disability certificate or love certificate<br>. Account No.   |
| Shinshin Shougaiasha Fukushi Teate<br>(Welfare Allowance for Physically or Mentally Disabled) [Provided by Hamura City Government] JPY12,000 / month         | Age 20 years or older, being cared at home, and holds Physical Disability Certificate grade3~4 or Certificate for persons with Mental Deficiency grade 4.<br>*Those 65 or older have disability support subsidy cannot become certified.                                   |  |
| Nanbyou Kanja Fukushi Teate<br>(Intractable Disease Allowance)<br>JPY7,500 / month   | Person with intractable disease which the national or Tokyo government specifies under Medical Subsidy of Tokyo Metropolitan Government Policy.<br>*Exclude receiving Hepatitis B, C and Respiratory Intractable Disease subsidy.  | . Specified medical expense (designated intractable disease) beneficiary certificate or metropolitan medical ticket for intractable disease<br>. Account No. |
| Takushii Hiyou / or Jidousha Gasorinhi Josei<br>(Subsidy for Taxi Fare or Gasoline Cost)<br>Choose either one  | Person who holds Physical Disability Certificate grade1~2 (include grade 3 for lower limb, trunk, or internal dysfunction), Certificate for persons with Mental Deficiency grade 1~2 or person with brain paralysis or progressive muscular atrophy.                       | . Physical disability certificate or Mental Deficiency certificate.<br>. Account No.   |

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| Riyou / Biyou Saabisu Hiyou Josei<br>(Subsidy for Hair/ Beauty dressing Fee)<br>Choose either one | Person who holds Physical Disability Certificate grade 1~2, Certificate for Mental Deficiency grade 1~2 or Limb/Trunk Dysfunction (Upper/Lower Limb, Trunk Dysfunction) grade 1~2. The barber and beauty services ticket at designated shops will be issued for those who are always bedridden or exempt from municipal tax. | . Physical disability certificate or Mental Deficiency certificate.   |
| Kinou Kaifuku Sejutsuhiyou Josei<br>(Subsidy for Physical Therapy Fee)                            | Person who holds Physical Disability Certificate grade 1~4 (grade 1~6 for those at age 70 years or older) will be provided acupuncture/massage therapy tickets<br>*This Josei will be end in late of FY2026 (March 31st, 2027).  | . Physical disability certificate   |
| Suidou/Gesuidou Shiyouryou Josei<br>(Subsidy for Water and Sewage Fee)                            | Residents tax exempt household that includes a member who holds Physical Disability Certificate grade 1~2 or Certificate for Mental Deficiency grade 1~2. Subsidized basic rates for the smallest diameter of water and sewerage.  | . Physical disability certificate or Mental Deficiency certificate<br>. Account No.<br>. Water bill receipt |

- ※ All procedures are required to apply at advance, please inquiry details.
- ※ Regarding subsidies for water and sewage usage fees, city will waive basic water charges and sewage usage fee for a certain period starting April 1st, 2026, in order to alleviate the burden on residents due to rising price. So there will be no subsidies during the waiver period as mentioned.
- ※ Regarding the others welfare systems, please check city official website, [Fureai Fukushi Shiori (bookmark)].



お知らせ

## INFORMATION

### < Volunteers Wanted for Agricultural Work! > 援農ボランティア募集

Through volunteering among farmers to support agricultural production, the [Agricultural Volunteers] are recruitment.

Farm Options: ①Vegetable Farm ②Flowers and Ornamental Plants Farm

※ Flowers: Plants cultivated for ornamental purposes.

Eligibility: **[Long-term]** ... Anyone who can participate at least once a week through out a year.

**[Short-term]**... Anyone who can participate during the busy season.

※ The activities will be carried out free of charge.

※ There are cases unable to be accepted due to the dispatch location or content are not meeting your expectations.

Application & Inquiries: Anytime, please come directly to Sangyou Shinkou Ka, Nousei Kakari ☎Ext.663.

### < Potato Pick-Your-Own Farm Plots > ジャガイモの区画売り

Why not come harvest potatoes grown by local farmers with your family and friends?

Harvest Season: End of May ~ Middle of June.

Fee: JPY3,000 each plot (25 roots per block).

#### ■ Farm Location and number of plots

| Farm Location        | Number of Plots |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| ① Hanekami 1-18-5    | 25              |
| ② Fujimidaira 1-1-28 | 10              |
| ③ Midorigaoka 4-6    | 35              |
| ④ Sakaechou 2-20     | 30              |

※ If you want to apply multiple farms, please apply one by one.

※ The Non-residents of Hamura are allowed to apply.

Application: Starting April 23rd (Thu), from 9AM ~ Noon, visit directly to Sangyou Shinkou Ka, Nousei Kakari (City Hall West Branch conference room).

※ Please pay as you apply without needing changes.

Inquiries: Sangyou Shinkou Ka, Nousei Kakari ☎Ext.663.



**Revised <Hamura City Action Plan for Countering Novel Influenza and Other Infectious Diseases>**

This plan has been revised to outline preparedness measures during peacetime and response strategies during an outbreak, with the aim of protecting the lives and health of citizens, minimizing the impact on their daily lives and the local economy should an infectious disease crisis caused by novel influenza or similar pathogens occur.

City will continue to collaborate with relevant agencies and organizations to advance efforts, ensuring city is prepared for infectious disease crises and able to respond swiftly and effectively.

※ This plan is available for review at the Municipal Information Corner on 1F City Hall, the Hoken Center, Primo Library Hamura, and the city's official website.

Inquiries: Kenko Ka (in Hoken Center), ☎Ext.624.



**< Temporary Suspension of Some City Hall Services >** 市役所サービスを一時停止します

Hamura city hall will be stopped services for electrical system inspection.

Your cooperations will be highly appreciated.

Date and Time: April 18th (Sat) 9AM~5PM (Convenience stores for whole day).

[Suspension Services]

◇ Convenience store delivery of certificates of residence, seal registration certificates, family registration certificates, registration for use of permanent domicile, and taxation certificates

Inquiries: ○ Electrical System Inspection … Keiyaku Kanzai Ka, Kanzai Kakari ☎Ext.395.

○ Concenience stores certificate delivery…Shimin Ka, Uketsuke Kakari ☎Ext.122.



情報アラカルト

**MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION**

引っ越します 地域包括支援センターあゆみ

**<Relocation Notice: Ayumi Chiiki Houkatsu Shien (Community Support) Center>**

Effective July 1st (Wed), the Hamura City Ayumi Community Support Center will be relocating.

Previous Address: 1-9-2 Hanekami, Hamura City

New Address: Room 103, Miyamoto Heights, 3-8-4 Ozakudai, Hamura City

※ There will be no changes to the service area (Sakae-cho, Ozakudai, Hanenishi, Hanekami, Hanenaka) ☎ 042-570-1200, or the scope of services.

※ The Home Medical Care and Nursing Care Coordination Support Center, which is located within the same facility, will also relocate simultaneously. .

Inquiries: Kourei Fukushi Kaigo Ka, Kaigo Yobou. Chiiki Shien Kakari ☎Ext. 195.

**S&D Sports Arena Hamura ☎042-555-0033**

**< The 70th Field Golf Tournament, Beginner's Seminar >** 第70回フィールドゴルフ大会. 初心者講習会

Date & Time: May 23rd (Sat), 9:30AM~Noon (Reception: 8:45AM~9AM, If it rains, event will be cancelled.)

Location: S&D Sports Park Fujimi Ground.

Eligibility: Hamura residents and workers.

Capacity: Golf Tournament ~ No / Beginner's Seminar 10 (in order of application, same-day registration is not permitted for either event)

Fee: Golf Tournament JPY200 / Beginner Seminar JPY100 (pay at site)

Things to bring: Exercise clothes, shoes, beverage, golf club and balls.

※ For the Beginner's Seminar, golf club and ball are available to lend out.

Sponser: Hamura City Sports Promotion Committe Association.

Application: Apr 17th (Fri) ~ May 10th (Sun), please apply with [name (furigana), phone number and group name (if you belongs to)] via city official website application, call or in person to S&D Sports Arena Hamura.

※ If you apply via phone or in person, 9AM~5PM. Exclude Holiday's Monday and May 7th (Thu).



弓道場

**KYUDO HALL ☎/Fax: 042-555-9255**

**<FY2026 Spring Kyudo Class>** 2026 年度 春季弓道教室

This class is designed for beginners.

Date & Time: May 9th (Sat) ~ 30th (Sat), every Wednesday and Saturday, 7PM ~ 9PM.

Location: Kyudo Hall.

Eligibility: Junior high school students and older (Junior high school students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian)

Capacity: 12 (drawing if oversubscribed). Priority given to residents and employees within the city.

Fee: JPY3,500.

※ Please wear comfortable athletic clothing (no buttons on tops) and socks.

Organized by: NPO Hamura City Sports Association.

Applications & Inquiries: April 17th (Fri) ~ 30th (Thu), please email [name, address, gender, age, and phone number] to the Hamura City Kyudo Association

✉secretariat@kyudo-hamura.sakura.ne.jp

S & D スイミングプラザ羽村

### S&D Swimming Plaza Hamura

**<The 25-meter pool is now open again>** 25m プールの利用を再開します

Repairs to the damaged area have been completed, and the pool is now open for use as usual.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused.

Inquiries: S&D Swimming Plaza Hamura ☎042-579-3210

(Closed Mondays; if Monday is a holiday, closed the following day)



子ども IT 未来塾

### < Computer Programming Skills Class for Children >

■ Hands-On Software and Hardware Programming Classes Using the [Raspberry Pi].

Date & Time: June 27th (Sat) ~ October 25th (Sun), every Saturday and Sunday (all 10 times).

Locations: Ome City Conference Room and Hamura City Sangyo Fukushi Center etc.

Eligibility: The 5th grade elementary school students ~ 2nd grade junior high school students who are able to participate in all days of the class.

Capacity: 15 (drawing if oversubscribed).

Fee: JPY7,000 (to be collected at the first meeting).

Application: Till May 18th (Mon) (must be arrived), via application form or an Oufuku Hagaki with necessary information (please check barcode posted on Hamura News ver. Apr 15th) and send to Ome Sato Foundation.

※ Regarding Application Requirements, documents and send to address etc, please check the leaflet of Ome Sato Foundation barcode posted on Hamura News ver. Apr 15th.

Inquiries: Ome City Board of Education, Gakumu Ka, Gakumu Kakari ☎0428-22-1111.



【平和事業】

### [PEACE PROGRAM]

**<Call for Participants: Parent-Child Reporter Program>** 親子記者事業参加者募集

Date: August 8th (Sat) ~ August 11th (Tue, Holiday).

Location: Nagasaki City (Atomic Bomb Museum, etc.).

Eligibility: Elementary school students 4th ~ 6th grade residing in Hamura and their guardians.

Capacity: 9 groups (drawing if oversubscribed).

Application: By May 11th (Mon), submit by email or postmail to the address.

※ For details, please scan the QR code posted on Hamura News ver. Apr 15th to view the application guidelines.

Application/Inquiries: Secretariat of the Japan Non-Nuclear Declaration Municipalities Council (Nagasaki City Peace Promotion Division) ☎095-844-9923, ✉info@nucfreejapan.com



参加しませんか チューリップ球根の掘取り

### <Why don't you participate for Digging-Up Tulip Bulbs ? >

Volunteers are wanted to help dig up tulip bulbs in rice paddies just before the roots are pulled up after the tulips have finished blooming.

Date & Time: May 7th (Thu). 8th (Fri), 10th (Sun) ~ 12th (Tue) 9AM~Noon (dissolution as soon as it ends).

Meeting Place: Odorikosou Park (located on the front of Negarami-mae Paddy Field).

Things to bring: Work gloves and beverages.

Application: By April 27th (Mon) 5PM, please call or fax to Kankou Kyoukai (Tourism Association) with your name and phone number.

**<For Tulip Owners digging bulbs>** チューリップオーナー球根掘取り

Eligibility: Privilege for the tulip owners of Tulip Festival 2025.

Date and Time: May 10th (Sun), 9AM ~ Noon.

Inquiries: Kankou Kyoukai (Tourism Association) ☎042-555-9667, Fax: 042-555-9673.

こそだて 掲示板

## CHILDREN AND PARENTS Board of Directors



### FOR PARENTS

「こども誰でも通園制度」を行う施設はこちら

**<Click here for participating facilities list in the [Childcare for All Children program]>**

The [Childcare for All Children program] allows children to attend kindergartens, nursery schools, and similar facilities for a set number of hours each month, regardless of whether their parents are employed or not. To use this service, you must be certified for the [Infant Support Allowance].

Regarding applying methods etc, please check city's official website to get details.

#### ■ Participating Facilities

| Facility Name              | Program Type                | Accepted Ages                    |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Kayanomi Nursery School    | Capacity Utilization Type ※ | 0 year olds only                 |
| Taiyo no Ko Nursery School | General Type                | From 6 months old to 5 years old |
| Aozora Nursery School      | Capacity Utilization Type ※ | 0 ~ 2 years old                  |
| Sakura Nursery School      | Capacity Utilization Type ※ | 0 ~ 2 years old                  |
| Luther Hamura Kindergarten | General Type                | 2 ~ 3 years old                  |
| Gonokami Kindergarten      | General Type                | 2 ~ 3 years old                  |
| Fuji Gakuin Kindergarten   | General Type                | 2 ~ 3 years old                  |

※ Capacity Utilization Type: A method of providing services by utilizing vacant spots in the capacity of nursery school and similar facilities. This option is not available if there are no vacancies in the classes. As of April, there are no vacancies at Aozora Nursery School and Sakura Nursery School, so this option is currently unavailable. Please check with each facility for future availability.

Inquiries: Kosodate Shien Ka, Hoiku. Youchien Kakari ☎Ext. 241.

**<Consultation for child's development >** お子さんの発達に関する相談

(1) General Consultation Service for Child Development

Date: Monday ~ Friday (except holidays)

Eligibility: Under 18 years old

(2) Consultation on language

Date: May 8th (Fri) and 22nd (Fri).

Location: Hoken Center

Inquiries: Kodomo Katei Center, Boshi Hoken. Sodan Kakari (in Hoken Center) ☎Ext. 694.



出産、子育て オンライン相談 (要予約)

**<Childbirth and childcare ~ Online Consultation (appointment required)>**

Please feel free to consult with specialties about any concerns or questions.

You may consult about the following:

How to spend your pregnancy, physical and mental care before and after childbirth. The hints of raising child's growth, development, health, etc. and general diet during pregnancy.

Day and Time: Monday ~ Friday 9AM~4PM.

Eligibility: Pregnant women or soon-to-be father and those raising children (up to preschool age).

Application & Inquiries: Please apply via 2D code of Hamura News Ver. Apr 15th or call Kodomo Katei Center(Child and Family Center), (in Hoken Center) ☎Ext. 692.



就学援助制度の申請を受け付けます

**<Applications for the School Assistance Program are now being accepted.>**

City provide assistance, based on income for school supplies, extracurricular activities, and other expenses to parents of children and students residing in Hamura city who are having difficulty covering educational costs due to financial hardship.

If you wish to apply, please submit an application.

Inquiries: Gakkou Kyouiku Ka, Gakumu Kakari ☎Ext.358

**FOR CHILDREN**

**CENTRAL CHILDREN CENTER ☎042-554-4552**

**< Day-time Moon Observation . Astronomical Observation >** 昼間の月観測会・天体観測会

Date: May 20th (Wed).

Time: ● Daytime Moon Observation ... 4PM ~

● Astronomical Observations ... 7:30PM ~

※ When it's rainy or cloudy, [Tonight's Starry Sky Commentary] will be held in the planetarium.

※ If you are late, you will not be able to participate.

Eligibility: Preschoolers to 18 years old.

Capacity: First 46 (including adults).

**<Handmade Toy Workshop>** 手作りおもちゃ教室

Choose from several items, including the [Forehead-Style Windmill] and the [Spinning Flyer], to make your favorite.

Date & Time: May 9th (Sat), ① 10AM ~ Noon, ② 1PM ~ 3PM.

Eligibility: Up to lower elementary school students.

Capacity: First 20 / per session.

※ Children who have not yet started elementary school must be accompanied by an adult.



**[Other Activities on the Same Day]**

・ Cap-Throwing Game      ・ Toy Hospital

Get your broken toys repaired or ask for advice.

Hosted by: Toy Hospital Screwdriver.

**PRIMO LIBRARY HAMURA ☎042-554-2280**

**< Story Telling at Main Library >** おはなし会

○ For Baby's paper theater ~ Apr 22nd (Wed) 11AM~

○ For Preschoolers Panel Theater ~ May 9th (Sat) 11AM~

○ For Elementary School Students ~ May 16th (Sat) 11AM~

**< Children's Book-Reading Week Specil Event >** 子供の読書週間 特別事業

**~ Story-Filled Panel Theater**

Date & Time: April 25th (Sat), 11AM~

Location: Storytelling Room, Main Library.



ゆとりぎ

**PRIMO HALL YUTOROGI ☎042-570-0707**

**< Movie Screening for Children >** 子ども映画会

Date & Time: May 10th (Sun) 10:30AM~11:30AM

Capacity: First 252

Supported by: Hamura 16mm Eizou Kenkyuukai

Location: Small Hall

Program: 3 titles scheduled

### <Air Conditioner Installation Subsidy for Low-Income Households>

This subsidy covers the purchase and installation costs of air conditioners for low-income households that do not have an air conditioner in their residence or cannot use one due to malfunction or other reasons.

Applicants must complete the application process by February 1st (Mon), 2027.

※ For details on how to apply, please check the city's official website or inquiry.



**Eligibility:** Households that meet any of the following criteria as of the application date.

- ① Households exempt resident tax.
- ② Households subject only to the flat-rate portion of the resident tax.
- ③ Households receiving Child Rearing Allowance.
- ④ Households receiving Hamura City's public assistance, but which are not eligible for temporary assistance

**Subsidy Amount:** JPY100,000. (maximum)

**Application Period:** May 1st (Fri) ~ February 1st (Mon), 2027 (ends once the budget limit is reached).

**Application Method:** By postmail or in person at the Call Center reception desk.

**Reception counter & Inquiries:** Hamura City Low-Income Household Air Conditioner Installation Support Subsidy Call Center (City Hall East Building, 1F, Conference Room 101) ☎0570-091-343 (9AM~12PM, 1PM~5PM; exclude Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Till April 30th (Thu), please inquiry to Shagai Fukushi Ka, Somu Kakari ☎Ext.477).

**Send to:** 〒205-8601 (No need to include address) Hamura-shi Shagai Fukushi Ka, Air Conditioner Subsidy Division.

こちら消費生活センター

### THIS IS CONSUMER AFFAIRS CENTER

ご注意ください！あなたも遭うかも？こんなトラブル～暮らしのレスキュー～

### <Warning! Could This Happen to You?

#### ~ Common Consumer Troubles "Living Resure">



**Inquiries:** Consumer Affairs Center ☎Ext. 641.

#### [Case]

My toilet suddenly got clogged, so I called a repair service. I found online that advertised rates starting at "JPY880". They ended up charging me JPY200,000 and told me they wouldn't leave unless I paid. So I paid JPY100,000. They also told me to pay the remaining JPY100,000 within 10 days, but the total is far too high, so I want a refund.

#### [The Consumer Affairs Center's response]

In this case, the client expected the repair to cost only a few tens of thousands of yen and did not anticipate such a high price. Generally, the "cooling-off period" does not apply when you call a contractor yourself. However, exceptions may apply if there is a significant discrepancy between the price listed online and the amount billed. Therefore, we advised the client to invoke the "cooling-off period" and had them notify the contractor. Subsequently, the Center negotiated with the contractor, and the client agreed to a partial refund of the amount already paid, resulting in the cancellation of the contract.

#### [Advice for preventing problems]

##### ○ Stay calm and respond carefully.

It is important not to rush. Panic can lead you to carelessly choose an unfamiliar contractor you found online. To avoid problems with exorbitant bills, be sure to consult a reliable local contractor or one you already know.

##### ○ Do not take online prices at face value.

Additional costs may arise beyond the amount shown in the advertisement. Just because a business appears at the top of a web search does not necessarily mean it is trustworthy. Be sure to confirm details thoroughly before placing an order.

##### ○ If you are not satisfied with the price or scope of work, do not pay on the spot.

If you are charged a high fee after the work is completed or if you are otherwise dissatisfied, do not pay on the spot. Instead, tell them, "I'd like to make a bank transfer later." Once you pay, it becomes difficult to get a refund.