

City of Yokohama Newsletter - July 2009

<Summary July 2009>

1. “Hillside Area” of “ExpoY150” will begin from July 4

In 2009, the City of Yokohama celebrates the 150th anniversary of Yokohama Port Opening and the commemorative theme event "Expo Y150" is currently being held. On Saturday, July 4, “Hillside Area” located adjacent to Yokohama ZOORASIA will open, following the “Bayside Area” that opened on April 28. "Y150 *Tsunagari-no-Mori*(Forests of Connection)" will be operated by the citizen staff selected from the public recruitment in the environment full of abundant green among forests and hills of Yokohama.

2. Events related to 150th Anniversary of Yokohama Port Opening

2009 Triathlon World Championship Series Yokohama (August 21 – 23)

Umi(Ocean)-Festa Yokohama (July 18 – 26)

3. The City of Yokohama, a designated eco-model city has drawn up the roadmap “CO-DO30” to act against climate change !

In January 2009, the City of Yokohama launched “CO-DO30”, an action plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, in an attempt to further tackle climate change issues. To execute the CO-DO30, the City has drawn up the CO-DO30 roadmap in March 2009. The City is committed to continuously tackling the climate change issues, setting the goal to reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses by more than 30% for each citizen.

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“1.5 million Tree Planting Actions” - 1,281,000 trees had already planted by the end of fiscal 2008 !

TOPICS

1. “Hillside Area” of “ExpoY150” will begin from July 4

In 2009, the City of Yokohama celebrates the 150th anniversary of Yokohama Port Opening since 1859. And now, the commemorative theme event "Expo Y150" is being held in three areas of “Bayside Area” (the Yokohama red brick warehouse outskirts), “Mother Port Area” (the Yokohama Station outskirts, Yamashita / Yamate district), and “Hillside Area” (Yokohama ZOORASIA adjacent district).

The “Bayside Area” opened on Tuesday, April 28, has received an excellent reputation through various programs such as "ENEOS La machine”, performance of huge spectacle art, "BATON", the new sense fantasy performance, and "HOME", ground balloon or the light up performance in the night.

And the “Hillside Area” will finally open on Saturday, July 4, which is located in adjacent of Yokohama ZOORASIA, and in the environment full of abundant green among forests and hills of Yokohama.

“Y150 *Tsunagari-no-Mori*(Forests of Connection)” will be operated by the citizen staff selected from the public recruitment. In this area, “*Take no Unabara* (Sea of Bamboo)”, the largest bamboo architecture in Japan, will be set up, and more than 180 programs of "Creative Citizen’s Project" will be held every day throughout the period.



The main attraction at Hillside Area “Y150 Tsunagari-no-mori (The Forest of connections)”

(1) Creative Citizens’ Program

The main contents for Hillside area. Community volunteers selected from the public recruitment and attracted to the theme of "The next 150 years starts with me" have created a “Creative Citizen’s Project”. Variety of programs like workshops, talk shows and performance will be held under the theme of nature, environment and symbiotic. More than 180 programs will be held every day throughout the period which visitors not only enjoy watching, but are able to communicate with, participate in and experience.

(2) Take no Unabara (Sea of Bamboo)



“Take no Unabara (Sea of bamboo)” is the largest bamboo architecture in Japan created from a kind of thick-stemmed bamboo harvested by the local citizens over about 3 months in October to December, 2008. Within the large half outdoors space located in the center of the “Hillside Area”, a variety of programs will be presented such as the panel exhibition and presentation of the “Creative Citizen’s Project”, a performance and music, talk show and a workshop.

In “Take no Unabara”, several devices have been introduced to cool the space without using air conditioners. For example, devices such as about 40%

sunlight reduction by using the blinds made of bamboo, the restraint of the temperature rise by the use of the titanium oxide photocatalyst tent which has a high reflection power to the sunlight, and the use of the evaporation heat by the setting of the misting facilities which spray put semi dry fog.

In parallel with adoption of such environmentally-friendly technologies, “Take no Unabara” shows an experimental usage to build a local production for local consumption system. This system will generate a demand for bamboo as a building material and will preserve the hills and forest of Yokohama ruined by abandoned bamboo grove. Furthermore, the City aims to have citizens realize the significance of preserving hills and forest through the bamboo grove management by bamboo logging.

(3) Exhibition and Open-air Performance “When the grasshopper was huge”



A huge grasshopper of 50 meters in length and 15 meters in height appears at the “Iko Hiroba (Recreation Plaza)” in Hillside area, and visitors can enjoy watching and touching the grasshopper. In addition, the open-air great spectacle performance, “When the grasshopper was huge” will be presented by the group composed of a theatrical company and selected citizen members on the theme of the fight and harmony between the human and environment.

-Exhibition Schedule (16 days in all)-

JULY – 4th (Saturday) and 5th(Sunday). Starting from 4:00p.m.

AUGUST – Every Saturday and Sunday. Starting from 7:00p.m.

SEPTEMBER – 19th (Saturday), 20th (Sunday), 26th (Saturday) and 27th (Sunday). Starting from 7:00p.m.

2. Other events related to the 150th Anniversary of the Yokohama Port Opening

2009 Triathlon World Championship Series Yokohama

The Triathlon course in Yokohama is designed as the urban-type which is very rare in Japan. Many world top athletes including 2008 Beijing Olympics medalists participate in this event. 230 domestic and international athletes will heat up the race. In addition, the world's first triathlon event for kids, "World Kids' Triathlon," and the "World Kids' Sports Summit in Yokohama" will also take place.

-About Triathlon World Championship Series Yokohama-

Duration: Friday, August 21 – Sunday, August 23, 2009

Venue: Yamashita/ Kannai district (Triathlon World Championship series Yokohama)

Yamashita Park/ Yamashita pier (World Kid's Triathlon)

Pacifico Yokohama (World Kid's Sports Summit in Yokohama)

Umi-Festa Yokohama

"Umi (Ocean)-Festa" is held every year in the main port cities in Japan in order to be reminded of the original meaning of "Marine Day (National holiday on July 20)", the day for expressing thanks for the many blessings Japan receives from the ocean and also for reaffirming the people's desire to prosper maritime country. Further, this event has a purpose of making the good environment for the people to get close to the sea and to be able to utilize three-day long holidays. The city of Yokohama will invite 6 sisters port and African nations to the "World Ports Seminar 2009" to be held in Yokohama to discuss the problems of the port. The seminar aims to promote an international exchange / collaboration with the ports all around the world, and to disseminate the information of "Yokohama Port" to the world. In addition, "So-han Tenpan" which three tall ships open all sails at the same time, will be presented at Osanbashi Pier and in the Nippon-Maru Memorial Park on "Marine Day", July 20.

-About Umi(Ocean)-Festa Yokohama-

Duration: Saturday, July 18 – Sunday, July 26, 2009

Main Events: Opening ceremony (July 18), "So-han Tenpan" (July 20), World Ports Seminar 2009 (July 21-23), Commemorative ceremony /Reception (July 23), Closing ceremony (July 26)

3. The City of Yokohama, a designated eco-model city has drawn up the roadmap "CO-DO30" to act against climate change!

The City of Yokohama in January 2009 launched the "CO-DO30," an action plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in an attempt to further tackle climate change issues. CO-DO30 is an abbreviation for "Carbon Off" while DO represents the meaning of "to DO". The figure 30 represents the target reduction number for citizens, each of whom is required to reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses by more than 30% by 2025.

The City of Yokohama has been designated by the Japanese government in July 2008 as "an eco-model city" that spearheads the initiative to mitigate climate change issues in Japan. This is because the city's attempts to tackle environmental issues were regarded by the government as a fairly successful case, including the CO-DO30 launch, the scheme to promote renewable energy, G30* and a COOL BIZ initiative. Having gathered opinions and feedback from the residents to execute the CO-DO30, the City has drawn up the CO-DO30 roadmap in March 2009. The City is committed to continuously tackling the climate change issues in collaboration with the citizens and business operators.

*G30 is an action of garbage reduction and recycling to achieve the target set in "Yokohama G30 Plan" that aims to reduce the amount of waste over the whole city for the fiscal 2009 by 30% from the fiscal 2001. At the end of fiscal 2008, the city already achieved the target with the reduction rate of 40%.



-About CO-DO30 Roadmap-

It consists of a series of plans to be materialized or considered by the City from 2009 to 2013 in order to achieve the medium-term target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions outlined in CO-DO30.

-The Objectives-

To ensure the action plans required for the citizens and business operators into practice, the City of Yokohama aims to carry out the following plans through the CO-DO30 roadmap: (1) institution building (2) a model plan with an eye for a full-fledged implementation over the entire city (3) campaigns in partnership with the business operators and subsidies to eco-friendly companies.

>From the fiscal 2009 to 2013, the roadmap ensures that each plan leads to (1) reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and (2) continuous impact on a considerable reduction after the campaign.

-Background-

In the City of Yokohama, it is imperative to reduce gas emissions from the citizens and business operators who are responsible for the recent increase of CO2 emissions and inform these people of the initiative in an easy-to-understand way. The City will include the following three perspectives in reducing CO2.

- (1) "Lifestyle" - By changing the way of life, effectively reduce CO2 from the citizens' life
- (2) "Business" - By expanding "green business," revitalize the local economy
- (3) "Energy" - Start up actions to increase renewable energy tenfold

-A driving force to execute CO-DO30 with the civilian power of 3.66 millions: Yokohama Eco School (YES) -

As one of the key initiatives included in the CO-DO30 roadmap, the City of Yokohama has established the platform name of "YES". The "YES" initiative will effectively provide information and learning opportunities about environmental issues needed by the citizens, with an aim to foster human resources who will play a key role in acting against climate change issues. The City intends to motivate more people to turn into action-oriented persons from mere learners of environmental issues through the YES initiative.

As the first lecture after the school opening, there will be a "Cafe de Eco (Learn about eco issues over coffee)" event on July 14, featuring an up-and-coming meteorologist Mr. Seita Emori, Section Leader for National Institute for Environmental Studies.

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"1.5 million Tree Planting Actions" - 1,281,000 trees had already been planted by end of fiscal 2008 !

The city of Yokohama is working on the green zone preservation continuously and meanwhile conducting "1.5 million Tree Planting Actions" as an action to make new green. With the cooperation of citizens and company/ groups, the city of Yokohama will target to plant 1.5 million trees by the end of fiscal 2009 that is a year of the 150th anniversary of Yokohama Port Opening

The tree planting results of 3 years during 2006-2008 was 1,281,000 in total. About 1,133,000 trees for public facility and private land greening and about 148,000 trees for the distribution to citizens and companies. The city of Yokohama will continuously promote tree planting to achieve this action.

[About Yokohama]

Yokohama lies on the peninsula around Tokyo Bay, approximately 30 kilometers (18 miles) southwest of the capital of Japan. Home to over 3.65 million people, Yokohama is Japan's second largest city. The GDP of Yokohama is about 12.69 trillion yen (roughly 132 billion US dollars). In the early period of Japan's modernization, the port of Yokohama developed as the gateway to the world. The port of Yokohama is top-class in Japan in terms of trade volume even today.

The City sincerely welcomes foreign enterprises, international conferences and a wide variety of international events and also promoting the citizen level exchanges. Today, the city has 8 Sister-Friendship Cities (Constantza, Lyon, Manila, Mumbai, Odessa, San Diego, Shanghai, Vancouver) and 6 Sister-Friendship Trade Cooperation Ports (Dalian, Hamburg, Melbourne, Oakland, Shanghai, Vancouver).

In 2009, Yokohama celebrates 150 years since its opening as a port, and the City is carrying out various projects and events including a commemorative theme event "EXPO Y150".

Please address any inquiries regarding this newsletter to the following persons:

>Yuiko Itoh / Satoshi Takahashi

Media Liaison Subdivision, City of Yokohama TEL: +81-45-671-3498

>Kikuko Kuraya / Takuji Hashimoto

Total Communications System Inc. TEL: +81-3-3261-7715 or kuraya.k@pr-toocs.co.jp

