

KAWARABAN

June, 2015

◆ Keeping Pets in Japan ◆

This issue of Kawaraban will take up the topic of pets. For those who think they would like to have a pet or already have a pet, please use this issue of Kawaraban as reference.

1. Before Getting a Pet

There are many apartments and rooms in Japan that do not allow pets, so make sure to check in advance whether pets are allowed or not.

2. When Getting a Dog

1) Registering Your Dog

Dogs must be registered. Registration can be done at facilities such as your local municipal office or public health center, etc. Registration usually costs about 3,000 yen. After registration, you will receive a license tag that you should attach to your dog's collar.



2) Rabies Prevention Injection

When you get a dog, in addition to doing the above registration, you must also get the dog a rabies vaccination. Once a year, from April until June, you can get a vaccination for your dog at a local municipality designated site or animal hospital. After receiving the injection, you will be issued a proof of vaccination tag. The tag should be attached to the dog's collar along with the license tag.

3) When Moving

When you are moving to a new residence with your dog, you will have to change the registration of your dog to your new residence's local municipality.

4) Reporting the Death of a Dog

When a pet dog has died, you file a report of death to the public health center you are registered at. When you file the report, you will also need the dog's registration tag and proof of rabies vaccination tag.

3. Castration and Infertility Operations for Cats and Dogs

These operations to castrate or prevent your cat or dog from becoming pregnant also help prevent behavioral problems and prevent illnesses related to sexual hormones. Operations take place at an animal hospital. For more details and questions on cost, please check at your local animal hospital.

4. If You Cannot Find your Dog or Cat

Lost dogs and cats are sometimes taken in and cared for temporarily at public health centers. If you have lost your cat or dog, please inquire at your public health center. When you pick up your pet from the public health center, there will be a 2,000 yen return cost and 500 yen per day care cost you will need to pay.



5. Giving a Dog or Cat to Someone

At public health centers, when an animal's owner cannot be found or an owner of a cat or dog can no longer take care of their pet, the center gives animals to citizens. Each public health center has a home page with information on available animals. Also, organizations like the Miyagi Prefecture Animal Protection Center and Sendai City Animal Control Center (Anipal Sendai) holds an animal adoption fair about once a month. For more information please directly contact the facilities above.

6. When Taking a Trip with your Dog or Cat

When taking animals, like a cat or dog, with you on trip, you can use the train, bus, subway and airplanes, etc. However, in some cases you might be charged a fee. Please make sure to put your animal in a cage. For more details, please ask someone from the transportation facilities you plan to use.



Also, at most hotels and Japanese inns in Japan, you will not be able to stay overnight with your animal. But there are pet hotel services that can take care of your pet for you.

7. Pet Insurance

When your pet is sick or is physically hurt, you can get them treated at an animal hospital. The cost to treat your pet will be the full cost. However, there are pet insurance services that will cover part of the medical fee. For those interested in pet insurance, please look for more information.

8. The Death of a Pet

1) Cremating a Pet

You can have a pet cremation done at a public pet cremation facility as well as private pet cemeteries as well. Please check with the facility for information, including fees.

2) Pet Cemeteries

Graveyards sometimes also have an accompanying facility in which the remains of a pet can be placed. Also, at pet cemeteries you can also have your pet's remains placed there or have a grave made for your pet.

9. Contact Information for Facilities Related to Pets and Animals in Miyagi Prefecture

Public Health Center	Address	Telephone Number	Areas in charge of:
Sennan Public Health Center	Ogawara-machi, aza Minami 129-1	0224-53-3117	Shiroishi-shi, Kakuda-shi, Zao-machi, Shichikashuku-machi, Ogawara-machi, Murata-machi, Shibata-machi, Kawasaki-machi, Marumori-machi
Shiogama Public Health Center	Shiogama-shi, Kitahama 4-8-15	022-363-5505	Shiogama-shi, Tagajo-shi, Matsushima-machi, Shichigahama-machi, Rifu-cho
Shiogama Public Health Center Iwanuma Branch	Iwanuma-shi, Chuo 3-1-18	0223-22-2188	Natori-shi, Iwanuma-shi, Watari-cho, Yamamoto-cho
Shiogama Public Health Center Kurokawa Branch	Tomiya-machi, Hiyoridai 2-42-2	022-358-1111	Taiwa-cho, Osato-cho, Tomiya-machi, Ohira-mura
Osaki Public Health Center	Osaki-shi, Furukawa, Asahi 4-1-1	0229-87-8001	Osaki-shi, Shikama-cho, Kami-machi, Wakuya-cho, Misato-machi
Kurihara Public Health Center	Kurihara-shi, Tsukidate, Fujiki 5-1	0228-22-2115	Kurihara-shi
Tome Public Health Center	Tome-shi, Hasamacho, Sanuma aza Nishisanuma 150-5	0220-22-6120	Tome-shi
Ishinomaki Public Health Center	Ishinomaki-shi, Higashinakazato 1-4-32	0225-95-1475	Ishinomaki-shi, Higashimatsushima-shi, Onagawa-cho
Kesennuma Public Health Center	Kesennuma-shi, Higashishinjo 3-3-3	0226-22-6615	Kesennuma-shi, Minamisanriku-cho
Miyagi Prefecture Animal Protection Center	Tomiya-machi, Akaishi, aza Shimomukaida 69-4	022-358-9424	Cities, towns, and villages in Miyagi Prefecture (Except Sendai-shi)
Sendai City Animal Control Center (Anipal Sendai)	Sendai-shi, Miyagino-ku, Ogimachi 6-3-3	022-258-1626	Sendai-shi

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● 〒981-0914 仙台市青葉区堤通雨宮町 4-17 宮城県仙台合同庁舎 7 階

● Tel : 022(275)3796 Fax : 022(272)5063 E-mail : mail@mia-miyagi.jp

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