

SUGINAMI GUIDE BOOK

Quick City Overview

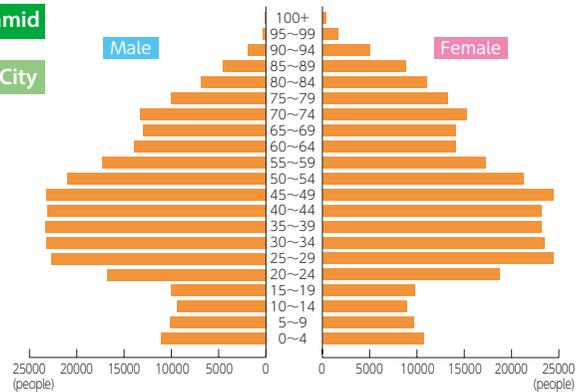


Suginami City in Numbers

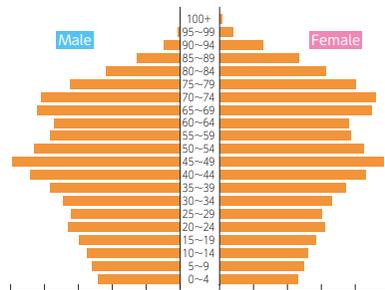
Population **574,280** No. of Households **325,518**

Population Pyramid

Suginami City



Japan



As of October 2019

No. of Children (under age 15)

60,323

Total Fertility Rate

1.03

*According to 2018 Tokyo metropolitan demographic statistics

Max. No. of Children Allowed to enter the Certified Child Care Center

12,080

*As of April 1, 2019

No waiting list for childcare since FY2018!



Foreign Residents

18,434

1st China 6,329 2nd South Korea 2,851

3rd Nepal 2,218 4th Vietnam 1,539 5th Taiwan 1,056

Intention to Settle

87.6%

Find it Easy to Live Here

96.1%

*According to 2019 Suginami City residential opinion survey



No. of Trees **35,914**

1st Cherry Blossom 5,945



2nd Japanese Zelkova 5,373



3rd Ginkgo 3,499



*According to FY2017 Suginami City greenery fact-finding survey

Area **34.06** km²



No. of Parks **327**

*As of April 1, 2019

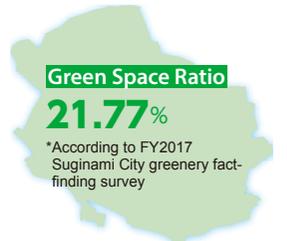
Park Area per Person **2.07** m²

*As of April 1, 2019

Green Space Ratio

21.77%

*According to FY2017 Suginami City greenery fact-finding survey



Daily Amount of Garbage Generated per Resident

466g/day

*FY2018



The smallest amount out of all 23 Special Wards for 8 years running!

No. of City Designated/Registered Cultural Properties

149

No. of Neighborhood/Residential Associations

159

No. of Shopping Streets, etc.

131

No. of Shops

3,106

*2016 Economic Census

*Figures without particular references or dates are as of March 1, 2020

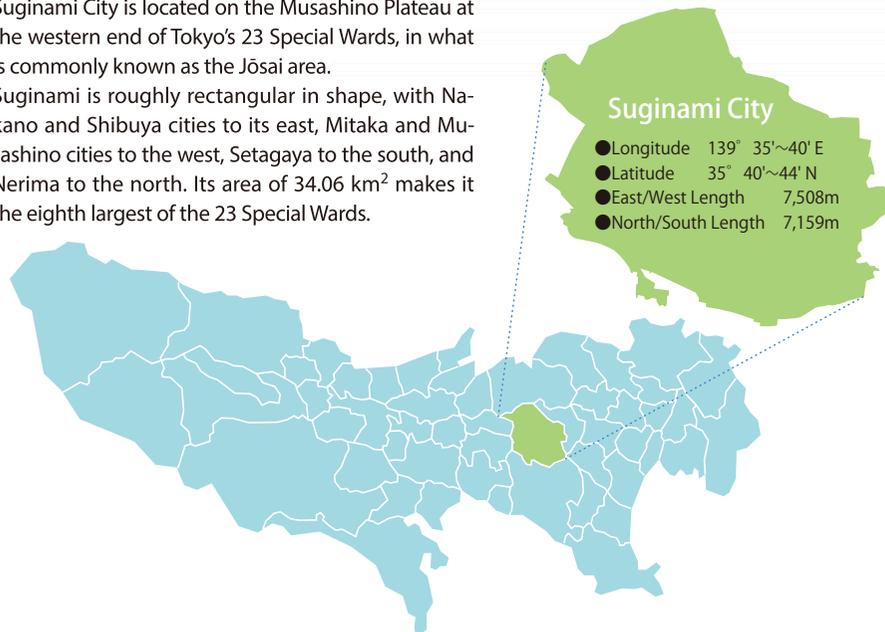
Suginami City Profile



Location & Area

Suginami City is located on the Musashino Plateau at the western end of Tokyo's 23 Special Wards, in what is commonly known as the Jōsai area.

Suginami is roughly rectangular in shape, with Nakano and Shibuya cities to its east, Mitaka and Musashino cities to the west, Setagaya to the south, and Nerima to the north. Its area of 34.06 km² makes it the eighth largest of the 23 Special Wards.



Origin of the City's Name

The origin of Suginami City's name dates back to the early Edo period, when a man named Okabe, lord of the villages of Narimune and Tabata, planted cedar trees ("sugi" in Japanese) in a row ("nami") along the Ōme Kaidō road to mark its boundaries. The cedar trees have since disappeared, the name "Suginami" was adopted as the name of the village, the town and finally became the city that exists today.

City Emblem

This emblem uses a geometric design based on the "sugi" character, and was established on October 1, 1952 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the adoption of Tokyo's Special Ward system.



(Design by painter Kōshirō Onchi, deceased)

Communication Mark

This symbol was established on March 11, 1992, to clearly define Suginami City's desire to become an attractive city suited to the new era.



Declarations

Declaration of Suginami City as a City of Peace

Everlasting world peace is a common goal that all of humanity shares. Let us forever seek to hold in our hands the happiness of peace and pass it on to future generations. Suginami hereby declares itself to be a city of peace, and wishes for nuclear weapons to be gone from this world.

(Enacted March 30, 1988)

Declaration of Suginami City as a City of Gender Equality Promotion

History is created by people, and people create the future. With a heart full of compassion, men and women must respect each other's individuality and abilities, regardless of gender or generation, as we all make our own contributions to society, pass on our dreams to a new generation with a brighter tomorrow and expand the breadth of equality and peace. In order to achieve these goals, Suginami hereby declares itself to be a city of Gender Equality Promotion.

(Enacted December 1, 1997)

Suginami City Traffic Safety Declaration

As the use of vehicles has increased rapidly in recent years, the traffic situation within the city has continually worsened, and the ever-increasing number of accidents that occur with each passing day is truly unbearable. Suginami City hereby declares itself to be a city of traffic safety, promoting policies that respect human life, protect the lives and property of its inhabitants, and striving to eliminate traffic accidents in the city.

(Enacted March 31, 1965)

Suginami City Official Plants

With the enacting of the Greenery Ordinance (November 1, 1973) seeking to "protect, grow, and nurture" green space within the city, three plants were chosen to represent Suginami City: the Cedar tree, the Dawn Redwood tree, and the Camellia Sasanqua.



Cedar



Dawn Redwood



Camellia Sasanqua

The History of Suginami



Vicinity of Kōenji Station (1924)



Vicinity of Ogikubo Station North Exit (1944)



Asagaya Station during morning rush hour (1961)



Kadokawa Garden

Artifacts exist that show people were living around the plateau and springs in the basins of the Igusa River (now a culvert) and Myōshōji River in the northern area of the city, the Zempukuji River in the central area, and of the Kanda River to the south, approximately 30,000 years ago.

In the late Heian period, a group of samurai known as Musashi samurai appeared, and during the Muromachi period this area was under the influence of the Edo clan's various "Asakaya-tono" (Asagaya lords). The development of new rice fields led to an increase in the amount of cultivated land during the Edo period, and the 20 villages in the area were ruled as territories of the Shogunate, hatamoto (such as Imagawa and Okabe) and under the control of Akasaka Sannō Shrine.

The area saw the construction of the Takaido-shuku post station along the Kōshū Kaidō road, falconry grounds for a family of the Shogunate, and the villages in the area bore the cost of these.

The Birth of Suginami City

The wave of industrialization finally reached the suburbs of the big cities, which had until then functioned as rural areas focusing on vegetable and grain cultivation. The establishment of the Hara Silkworm Larva Factory (later known as the Silkworm Experiment Station) in 1912 and the opening of the Nakajima Aircraft Company's Tokyo Factory in 1925 were especially pivotal moments. In the wake of the Great Kanto Earthquake in 1923, urban residents relocated in search of new homes, leading to rapid advancement of housing. On October 1, 1932, the four towns of Suginami, Wadabori, logi, and Takaido merged to become Tokyo City's Suginami Ward. In the postwar era, a transportation network including street cars, buses, and subways developed, allowing Suginami to evolve into a residential area with easy access to the city center.

Kamakura in the West, Ogikubo in the East

The Ogikubo area was once famous as a site for villas - much like Kamakura in the west, as is Ogikubo in the east - with many celebrities having owned estates there. Music critic Moto Ōtaguro, poet and founder of Kadokawa Shoten Genyoshi Kadokawa, and three-time early-Shōwa prime minister Fumimaro Konoe are some of the more well-known residents. The sites of the former two have since become Ōtaguro Park and Kadokawa Garden respectively, while the latter was declared a National Historic Site, Tekigaisō (former residence of Fumimaro Konoe), and is currently in the process of being renovated into Tekigaisō Park (tentative name).

Also, many of these culturally significant people from the Taishō and Shōwa eras preferred the suburbs where nature remained intact as a part of the lifestyle. Examples include Tekkan Yosano and his wife Akiko, "Ogikubo Fudoki" author Masuji Ibuse, and Osamu Dazai, who moved there out of admiration for Ibuse.

- 1932 October** Suginami City established
- 1933 August** Inokashira Line begins operation
- 1943 July** Tokyo Prefecture and Tokyo City merge to form Tokyo Metropolis
- 1944 August** Mass evacuation to Nagano and Miyagi Prefectures
- 1952 October** City emblem is decided
- 1954 May** Establishment of the Suginami Council for the ban-the-bomb movement
- August** 1st Asagaya Tanabata Festival
- 1957 August** 1st Koenji Awa-Odori Festival
- 1962 January** Subway Marunouchi Line begins operation
- 1963 December** Toden Suginami Line ceases operation
- 1965 March** City Traffic Safety Declaration is made
- 1973 September** Greenery Ordinance enacted
- 1982 August** Suginami City song and melody established
- 1983 January** Suginami Incineration Plant begins operation
- 1988 March** City of Peace Declaration is made
- 1992 March** Communication Mark is established
- 1997 December** City of Gender Equality Promotion Declaration is made
- 1999 October** Suginami City official website opens
- 2000 November** Sugimaru Community Bus on North-South Routes begins operation
- 2002 October** National Gender Equality Promotion Declaration City Summit is held
- 2003 January** Masatoshi Koshiba, winner of the Nobel Prize in Physics, is named the city's first honorary citizen
- October** Safety & beautification ordinance, start of outdoor smoke-free areas
- 2004 July** Enforcement of regulations regarding installation and use of security cameras (first in Japan)
- 2005 July** Suginami Shihankan opens as a teacher training school unique to Suginami City (first in Japan)



Parade celebrating establishment of Suginami City (1932)



2nd Tokyo Koenji Awa-Odori Festival (1958)



Street car commemorating the closure of the Toden Suginami Line (1963)



Sugimaru Community Bus on North-South Routes



Ecclesia Minami-Izu

- 2006 April** Start of crime victim support system (first in Japan)
- September** Suginami City animated character Namisuke is selected
- 2007 June** Suginami Parenting Support Coupon program starts
- 2009 October** Elderly Support Points program starts
- 2010 September** Junior High School Student Environmental Summit starts
- 2011 March** Great East Japan Earthquake occurs (assistance sent to Minamisōma City)
- April** Cooperative Support Council held with domestic Friendship City
- 2012 April** Students Development Fund established
- August** Joins Mayors for Peace
- 2014 November** Issuance of Suginami vehicle license plate begins
- 2016 April** Suginami Childcare State of Emergency declared
- 2018 March** Opened Ecclesia Minami-Izu (special elderly nursing home operated by Suginami and Minami-Izu, first in Japan)
- April** Number of children on childcare waiting list reaches zero

Friendship City

Suginami City boasts friendly relationships with 10 cities in Japan and 3 abroad, and we are strengthening these amicable bonds through economic and tourist exchanges such as product exhibitions, reciprocal visits by children's groups, and culture and sports exchanges. We have also concluded Agreements to Provide Mutual Assistance in Times of Disaster and are strengthening our support network needed in times of disaster.

Municipality	Profile
Nayoro City, Hokkaido	Exchange Agreement concluded July 1989 (formerly Füren Town) Located in northern Hokkaidō, vast sunflower fields spread out in the summer, and diamond dust can be seen in the winter. The city is famous for its municipal observatory Kitasubaru as well as Nayoro Piyashiri Ski Resort, which boasts superb snow quality.
Higashi-Agatsuma Town, Gunma Prefecture	Friendship City Agreement concluded August 1989 (formerly Agatsuma Town) Located in west central Gunma Prefecture, its famous locations include the scenic Agatsuma Gorge and Mt. Iwabitsu, which was the base for the Sanada clan. The numerous vegetables grown on the plateau have many faithful customers, and product exhibitions are always bustling.
Ojiya City, Niigata Prefecture	Agreement to Provide Mutual Assistance in Times of Disaster concluded May 2004 The fireworks display at the annual Asahara Shrine Festival (Katakai Festival) held every September in the Katakai district is best known for its world's-largest fireworks balls roughly four feet in diameter. Its colored koi farms are also quite famous, and the exchange agreement with the city originated with its donation of koi for the pond in Otaguro Park.
Kita-Shiobara Village, Fukushima Prefecture	Whole Health Resort Agreement concluded November 2004 The natural scenic area of Mt. Bandai and the lakes that surround it, such as Lake Hibara, Lake Onogawa, and the Goshikinuma lakes, was designated as a national park in 1950 and is a popular tourist destination. This partnership began with the establishment of the Whole Health Resort Agreement, which allows residents of the city to receive discounts on shopping and accommodations when they visit.
Minami-Soma City, Fukushima Prefecture	Agreement to Provide Mutual Assistance in Times of Disaster concluded May 2005 Located on the coast of the Pacific Ocean, this area boasts a mild climate with cool summers and little snowfall in the winter. Soma-Nomaai Horse Chase Event with a history of over 1,000 years, is known nationwide as a traditional event featuring highlights such as brave armor-clad horse racing and a competition where horse riders chase after flags launched in the air.
Ome City, Tokyo	Exchange Agreement Between Suginami City and Ome City concluded May 2009 Until 1984, there was even a Toei Bus route that stretched 39 kilometers, running along the Ome Kaidō Road connecting Asagaya Station and Ome Bus Garage. Mitake Valley and Yoshino Plum Garden are well-known relaxation areas for Tokyo residents, and a large number of tourists visit the areas throughout the year.
Musashino City, Tokyo	Agreement to Provide Mutual Cooperation in Times of Disaster concluded December 2011 While a convenient transportation network that includes the Chūō Line and Inokashira Line as well as a plethora of commercial facilities are available, a lush and tranquil living environment still remains.
Oshino Village, Yamanashi Prefecture	Agreement to Provide Mutual Assistance in Times of Disaster concluded August 2012 Located at the foot of Mt. Fuji at an altitude of 936 meters, this village is known for the rich spring waters of Oshino Hakkai springs and the famous mountain view known as "Oshino Fuji", which draw tourists and photographers here throughout the year. In the village is Fuji Gakuen, which is used as a moving classroom for children.
Minami-Izu Town, Shizuoka Prefecture	Agreement to Provide Mutual Assistance in Times of Disaster concluded September 2012 Located on the southernmost tip of the Izu Peninsula, this is a popular tourist destination with mild weather year-round and beautiful coastlines and hot springs. It is also home to Yumigahama Club, a facility that is used as a moving classroom for children.



Municipality	Profile
Ogasawara Village, Tokyo	Child Nature Experience Exchange Project Promotion Declarations exchanged July 2013 Composed of more than 30 large and small islands, this is a treasure trove of nature, featuring some of the world's clearest seas and a unique ecosystem with its own flora and fauna. Every year we send a group of about 30 junior high school students to experience the nature of Ogasawara in order to give them an opportunity to think about the global environment while in such a natural setting.
Willoughby City (New South Wales, Commonwealth of Australia)	Friendly City Agreement concluded May 1990 This residential city is about 30 minutes from central Sydney by car or train. We have had a study abroad program for junior high school students there since 2013. Students who are selected for this program take part in experience such as classes at a local school and staying with a host family.
Seochon City (Seoul, South Korea)	Friendly City Agreement concluded December 1991 This residential city is located south of the Han River that flows through Seoul, and is home to the Seoul Arts Center, the largest in South Korea, and the National Library. It is a beautiful place where the greenery of the Umyeong and Cheonggye mountains strike a perfect harmony with the Han River.
Taipei City, Taiwan	Youth Exchange Promotion Declarations exchanged December 2013 This partnership started with a goodwill baseball tournament for junior high school students. The location of the tournament alternates annually, with students from Minami-Soma City also participating. We are also deepening our sports-and culture-related exchanges, such as holding a performance of the Tokyo Koenji Awa-Odori Festival in Taiwan.

Bringing Friendship Cities Together



The Great East Japan Earthquake of 2011. Minami-Soma, a city with which Suginami has an exchange program, was in dire need of support following the quake and the incident at the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant that followed. Other Friendship Cities of Suginami volunteered to assist with the support activities. The idea that "a friend of a friend is a friend of mine" became formal bonds between cities to establish the Cooperative Support Council, and a system was put in place to provide mutual assistance in times of disaster. Furthermore, these efforts evolved into strong relationships aiming for coexistence and mutual prosperity among the Friendship Cities, which are developing as Friendship City Forums in order to solve various problems.

The Four Seasons of Suginami



Famous cherry blossom viewing spots! Spring

The city is dotted with famous locations for cherry blossom viewing, with the Myōshōji, Zempukuji, and Kanda Rivers that flow through the city being particularly popular spots. Many people look forward to seeing the blooms every year.

Asagaya Tanabata Festival

This festival has been taking place in the shopping arcade near JR Asagaya Station for more than 60 years. Colorful lanterns, windsocks, and large handmade papier-mâché objects are packed into the venue creating an appearance that delight visitors.



Summer

Tokyo Koenji Awa-Odori Festival

The largest event in the Kōenji area. The enthusiasm of 10,000 dancers and a million visitors fills the whole town.



Foliage Illumination at Otaguro Park

Otaguro Park is one of the most famous places in Suginami for fall foliage. Delight in seeing the reflections of the illuminated nighttime scenery on the clear surface of the water. Tea rooms are also available for events.



Autumn

Asagaya Jazz Street

A fall tradition, the Asagaya district is turned into a world of jazz music. Held in late October every year, more than 60 venues, including restaurants and streets, come alive with live jazz performances.



Asagaya Illumination

Every December, the dawn redwood tree in front of JR Asagaya Station is lit up for Christmas with approximately 20,000 LED lights. At the lighting ceremony, local elementary, junior high, and high school students further brighten the atmosphere with their performances.



Winter

Dondoyaki Festival

People bring their New Year decorations and amulets and burn them. The fire is said to have the power to purify and expel a year's evil.



The Seven Areas of Suginami

Suginami City is divided into seven areas, each centered around a major train station. You can also learn about the unique charms each area offers.

Tokyo Polytechnic University
Suginami Animation Museum



Momoi Harappa Park



Kashinomiya Park



Kamiigusa Sports Center

Igusa Area

The Seibu Shinjuku Line runs from east to west through this area, which is lush with farmland and homestead woodlands.

Nishiogi Area

Antique shops and unique retailers stand side-by-side in this area, where calm and lively atmospheres coexist.



Suginami Incineration Plant

Suginami Incineration Plant

At the base of the white chimney near Takaido station is an incineration plant. Most of what is incinerated here is the combustible waste from Suginami City's 570,000 residents. Inside the plant you can find the Tokyo Garbage War History Miraikan Museum and the Takaido-no-Sato Ashiyu Foot Bath. Outside is the Walking Road, which is available to visit or use as you wish during opening hours.



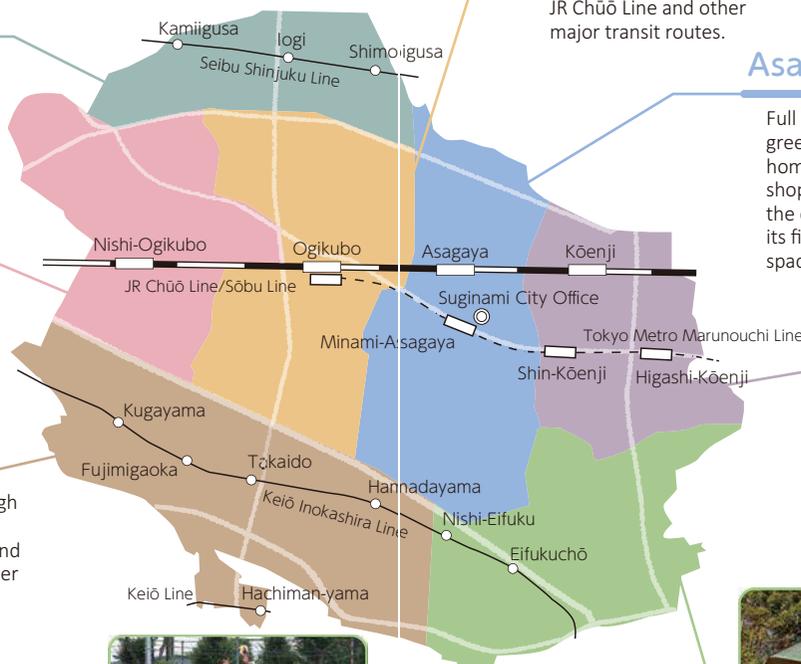
Introduction video also available



Eifuku Gymnasium beach volleyball court



Igusamori Park



Hōnan/Izumi Area

Known for being a convenient place to live, this tranquil residential area also offers easy access to the city center.



Historical Museum

Kanda River/Ring Road No.7 Underground Reservoir

Underneath Ring Road No.7 that runs through the city is a massive tunnel with a length of 4.5 kilometers and a 12.5-meter diameter. When heavy rain falls, water from the Kanda, Zempukuji, and Myōshōji rivers flows into this tunnel to prevent flooding.



Introduction video also available



Suginami Koukaido Concert Hall



Ogikubo Music Festival

Ogikubo Area

The economic and cultural heart of Suginami City, this area serves as a hub for the JR Chūō Line and other major transit routes.



Asagaya Jazz Street

Asagaya Area

Full of liveliness and greenery, this area is home to the largest shopping arcade in the city and some of its finest green spaces.



Zempukujigawa Park

Za Koenji Public Theater



Kōenji Area

Even among the areas that make up what is known as Chūō Line Culture, this region takes you especially deep into that culture.



Kōenji Engei Festival

The Three Gardens of Ogikubo

Ogikubo was once a place where many artists and culturally significant people lived, and some of those residences are still standing today. In order to help you get familiar with the historical resources Suginami City has to offer, here are three gardens that have either been converted into parks or are in the process of being converted.



Ōtaguro Park

The former site of the residence of music critic Motō Ōtaguro (partially donated) was renovated by Suginami City and made into a Japanese garden, which opened in October of 1981. Highlights include rows of ginkgo trees more than 100 years old and Western-style architecture that was rare at the time. In the fall, trees are illuminated to display the colors of their foliage.



Ōtaguro Park illumination

Tekigaisō Park (tentative name)

Tekigaisō is the villa of politician Fumimaro Konoe, who served as prime minister for three terms before the start of World War II. Having been a setting for important political talks and cabinet meetings, it was designated as a National Historic Site in March 2016. Efforts are being made to restore it to its original condition, and its scheduled completion is in 2024.



Tekigaisō at the time of its building

Kadokawa Garden

The former residence of poet and Kadokawa Shoten founder Genyoshi Kadokawa was donated to the city by his bereaved family. It was renovated and opened as a municipal park in May 2009. The building, which was completed in 1955, is registered as a National Tangible Cultural Property, and it hosts various events such as haiku poet gatherings.

*Please check the Suginami City website for park opening hours and holidays.

Suginami City Official Animated Characters Namisuke & Friends



Namisuke

The official character of Suginami City, Namisuke was chosen through an open call for participants in 2006. He transmits the city's uniqueness and culture, what we call "the charm of Suginami" both inside and outside the city. His birthday is October 1st. He's actually 20 years old!



Uncle Namiki

This kind old man teaches Namisuke a lot of things and listens to his problems. He doesn't say a lot, and always plays it cool.



Nammy

Namisuke's sister. She has a flower on her head, and she loves her big brother.



Supito

An easygoing type that doesn't get worked up about things. His special skills are calming upset people with a refreshing breeze and being a guide for Suginami City.



Taneta

He's about the size of a flowerpot. He loves water and the sun. His special skill is growing out his buds, which pleases people.



Namisuke Trivia

Who is Namisuke?

Namisuke is a fairy that used to live on Suginamisaurus Island. He was created by graphic designer Yuri Gomi. She created him with the hopes of him becoming a character that would be loved by city residents for a long time.



Suginami & Namisuke

Namisuke can be seen all over the city, from covers on elementary school 1st-graders' backpacks to manhole covers.



Namisuke's Design

Namisuke's design can be used for products and services free of charge with advance application (application is not required for personal or home use).

For more information, please visit "Namisuke's Forest" on the Suginami City website.





Suginami City Informational Tools



1

Suginami City Official Website



Quickly delivering information including news and announcements from the city and event information.



2

PR Magazine “Kōhō Suginami”

Keeping you informed about city policies as well as lectures, courses, and various projects. Issues released twice a month, on the 1st and 15th.



3



YouTube

The official channel for public relations program such as “Suginami Style” and “Suginami-Bito MOVIE”, as well as videos of the mayor’s press conferences and other various video content produced by the city.



Suginami Style

Introduces efforts being made by the city as well as local topics of interest and happenings. New videos released twice monthly, on the 1st and 15th of each month.



Suginami-Bito MOVIE

PR magazine “Kōhō Suginami”’s special feature “Suginami-Bito” in video form. Includes previously unpublished interviews and more.



4



Twitter

Event Info

Account name
▶ Suginami City
Public Relations
Section



Earthquake & Flood Prevention Info

Account name
▶ Suginami City
(Earthquake & Flood
Prevention Info)



Facebook

Announcements & Info from Suginami City

Account name
▶ Suginami City
Public Relations
Section



SUGINAMI GUIDE BOOK Quick City Overview

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