

# Institution introduction

## Higashida Eco Club House

Here is the place where 8 organizations are sharing as an office. NPOs, companies and laboratories are working together in this spacious wooden house with glazed windows. This house is not only for these organizations, but others also can use for any utilizations. Actually, public service and businesspersons use here very often to have meetings and parties with visitors. And then, people who are living around this area just come to have a chat with staffs and give us rewarding information. This place is so-called a non-public community space. We all have work together towards building sustainable society in Higashida area.



There is a kitchen garden behind this house. It's opened for people in community to make veggies by themselves.

■BLOG : <http://nposatoyama.blogspot.com/>

## Kitakyushu Eco Life Plaza

Kitakyushu Eco Life Plaza opened in November, 2002. We promote [3R and green consumer and suggestion of greener lifestyle] through selling eco products and workshops. For example, we held a workshop of making sandal by used cloths and a food education seminar.



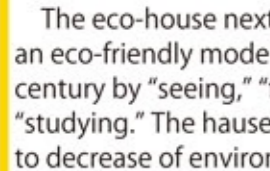
- PLACE : AIM2F, 3-8-1, Asano, Kokurakita-ku, Kitakyushu-shi, Fukuoka, 802-0001, Japan
- ANNUAL VISITORS: 27,889 persons
- MAIN ACTIVITIES : Eco goods, reuse goods, fair trade goods selling, Eco work shop
- HP : <http://www.ecolifeplaza.com/>
- BLOG : <http://eco-life-plaza.blogspot.com/>

## Kitakyushu Environment Museum

As a base of environmental education and exchange ideas the museum have supplied various events. Guides are explaining for guests' "awareness" and "understanding" in this museum. Also, we introduce environmental problems and Eco-lives through exhibitions and workshops. From April 2012 the entrance charge became free and exhibition was renewed.

The eco-house next to the museum is an eco-friendly model house on 21st century by "seeing," "feeling" and "studying." The house design is possible to decrease of environmental impacts in Life cycle assessment (LCA). You can directly feel the comfort and many challenges. We suggest the benefits of environmental-friendly house.

- PLACE : Higashida2-2-6, Yahatahigashi-ku, Kitakyushu-shi, Fukuoka-ken, Japan
- ANNUAL VISITORS: 104,973 persons
- MAIN ACTIVITIES : Environmental educations, holding various events
- HP : <http://www.eco-museum.com/>
- BLOG : <http://ecomuseum.blogspot.com/>



## Yamada Green Park

Yamada Green Park is the place where can connect between people and nature. The concept of this park is "Making forest toward the 30th century". We offer visitors experimental programs to take their first step for finding surrounding nature. Visitors can meet various seasonal flowers, wild birds and insects in this place. And then, we have a huge log house called "MORINOIE". People can utilize here as piano concerts, events, and meetings. In addition, we have been making efforts in childcare support through nature.



- PLACE : Yamadamachi, Kokurakita-ku, Kitakyushu-shi, Fukuoka, 803-0865, Japan
- ANNUAL VISITORS: 65,000 persons
- MAIN ACTIVITIES : Nature program, Nature guide, Event planning, Michikusa
- HP : <http://www.yamada-park.com/>
- BLOG : <http://yamada-park.blogspot.com/>

April, 2011-May, 2012

# Activity report



## SATOYAMA NOW! The number of all staff is 26.

The number of staff in

Higashida Eco Club House is 7

New staff 3 (Graduate recruitment 1/Mid-career recruitment 2)

Kitakyushu Environment Musium is 12

Average age is about 37.

Kitakyushu Eco Life Plaza is 4

Native place Kitakyushu 11/Fukuoka 3/Kyushu 2/Out of Kyushu 10

Yamada Green Park is 3

April, 2012 now.

## April, 2012



NPO  
**SATOYAMA** Active Viewers of Sustainable Society

特定非営利活動法人  
**里山を考える会**



# Activity report at 2011.

Sustainable life style means to live within Nature' s recuperative power. We propose the "SATOYAMA" way which includes old nice ideas and the way is useful for lives in both cities and villages.



## Nature tour by Segway

This is a program, which you can ride Segway, enter to Yamada Green Park with guides. The guides introduce fascination of nature for participants. Participants from other prefecture have been increasing. There is an only place to have experience Segway tour in Kyusyu area. Most of participants say "It is very fun and nature is very comfortable!"



■PLACE : Yamada Green Park  
■TOTAL PARTICIPANT : about 50 persons

## Kitakyusyu Satoyama Trust Meeting

We organized a Satoyama Trust meeting, which consists of landowners, foresters and public people to preserve secondarily forests for sustainability. Forest erosion by bamboo -grooves is very serious problem. We try to utilize bamboo for maintaining forests periodically. In 2011, we had third-Satoyama-festival. We made bamboo plates and played ocarina in the nature. These activities let us feel more the bounty of nature.



## Environmental experience course

This was the collaboration with the board of education in the city of Kitakyushu. We held environmental experience courses for fourth grade of elementally school. The aim of this project was to activate their conscious and positive attitude toward the natural environment.

<Yamada Green Park>  
Yamada Green Park organized an original program that students could find real nature by themselves through enjoyment and experiences in the park. It was the good opportunity to return to nature and commune with it.

<Kitakyusyu Environment Museum>  
Guide arranged original programs for each school.

## Michikusa

Michikusa means "walking around freely" . Infants and their parents come to Yamada Green Park and spend time freely once a week. Repeat families have increased, because this opportunity makes children having start of friendship of nature and also parents share information.



■PLACE : Yamada Green Park  
■TOTAL PARTICIPANT: 900 persons

## IKUJING

IKUJING is one of proposals for social solution of children on waiting list for vacancy at nursery. This program is introduced by staff of Yamada Green Park. Mothers are able to cope with both Children care and working, through being at an office together. We have improved usage of Yamada Green Park for children and parents though IKUJING. For example, a staff (mother) carried out "Michikusa" programmed by mother' s



■PLACE : Yamada Green Park

## Child Care Support Festival

We participated on [the child care support festival]. In this event, we sold Eco-products that are good for body' s health. "Acrylics scrubbing brush" was very popular as a helpful tool for mothers, because it could remove dirt without detergent. Through this event, we could supply information of the Eco Life Plaza to young parents. For details about Eco Life Plaza,



■PLACE : Kitakyushu Eco Life Plaza  
■DATE : 23/12/2011

## Fair trade week

Fair trade is the trade contributing sustainable development by offering better trading conditions, securing rights of producers and workers. We held fair trade event every year on the season of Christmas or St. Valentine at the Eco Life Plaza. While this event, we introduced various fair trade products through offering the sample of coffee, cookies and chocolates.

■PLACE : Kitakyushu Eco Life Plaza  
■DATE : 18/12/2011  
05/02/2011

## Bamboo lantern

We made lanterns to utilize bamboo-grooves, which encroached on the secondary forest in this city. These lanterns were set up in [Kokura Illumination event]. People enjoyed these beautiful illuminations. After the event, we made charcoals using these bamboos. This is sustainable way for using bamboo effectively.



■PLACE : Kokurakita-ku, Kitakyushu-shi  
■DATE : 21-25/12/2011

## 6th Forest forum

We held an event called "Forest Forum" for dementia patients and their family. A purpose of the event is to make participants to relax by coming in touch with nature. A lot of bolantters including students from Universities and high schools, city governments and corporations, have collaborated to organize the event. We all take a walk in a forest and sing children' s songs together to share happiness by these collaborated programmes. We especially focused on three symposiums for deeper understanding of dementia and method of prevention utilizing nature.



■PLACE : Yamada green park  
■DATE : 6th Forest forum 22/10/2011  
1st symposium 7/10/2011  
2nd symposium 22/10/2011  
3rd symposium 10/11/2011  
■TOTAL PARTICIPANT : 1,471 persons

Activities in Nature.  
To find the wonder of nature and to think the sustainable usages of nature.

Activities in City.  
To propose the design of "SATOYAMA" life for useful in cities.

To make sustainable life using "SATOYAMA" life style.

Conect activities.  
To connect persons, communities and make better towns.

## Special exhibition

In 2010, we held an exhibition on Eco-stationeries and in 2011, we also held feature exhibitions, "How to spend hot summer season with green ideas," "The research on Biomass plastic" and "The secret of the eco-friendly cars."



We intended visitors to recognize a little thing in our everyday life make changes towards sustainability.

■PLACE : Kitakyushu Environment Museum

## Kitakyushu smart community

There is a project named "Kitakyushu Smart Community" which considers how to manage electricity smartly in city of Kitakyushu. Corporations, public service, researchers and NPOs construct the members of this project. We are also member of this project. So the meetings of it are held at Higashida Eco-club house. We have discussed about the smart way to use renewable energy and comfortable city to live.



## MIRAI HOTARU DAY' 2011

"Mirai" means future, "Hotaru" means fireflies. Two days long event for thinking of sustainability for future. A theme of 2011 was "our small actions could change the world." Children participated on many events and workshops by grass roots groups, corporations and city governments. Children learned about sustainability through these activities. The most popular activity was "Find Chilimen monsters," which participants find various small creatures among baby sardines.



■PLACE : Kitakyushu Environment Museum, Eco house and surrounding facilities  
■DATE : June 4, 2011, 5  
■VISITOR : 6,975 persons

## The tour of "Hydrogen energy town"

Hydrogen energy experiments have been done in Higashida area. We have done guided tours for many visitors and shown the newest earth-friendly technologies.

■PLACE : Kitakyushu hydrogen energy museum, Hydrogen energy apartments "Higashida H2"  
■TOTAL PARTICIPANT : about 3,000 persons



## And...

- Environment Passport Center
- Kitakyushu Eco Life Stage Cooperation, exhibit
- Yahatahigashiku make towns liaison group Cooperation
- Green Frontier HIRAODAI Trail
- Hydrogen energy apartment 「Higashida H2」

## Green map

Green Map is to look environment in your neighborhood, through making the Green Map. We had exhibition at museum of maps of Zenrin, which is one of biggest company of map



museums, and also workshops. Through workshops, participants made original Green Maps focused on history and sustainability around Kokura castle. The workshops were held in Yamada Green Park in nature and Eco Life plaza in city center. The participants had been familiar with green site in city where they live.



## Fundraising for Tohoku Earthquake

We set donation boxes in each facility for Tohoku Earthquake. Thanks for donators!! We contributed this donation to "kitchen-car project" in city of Kamaishi, Iwate, which is a sister city of Kikyakyushu. We will be building up networks of NPO in Kamaishi city to work together for reconstruction. Our staff also went to Iwaki city in Fukushima, to join "Ukyo Katayama Challenge school" to encourage children, who were not able to play outside because of radiation.



## We made a footbath!

Experimental test of hydrogen energy has been tested in Yahata town. There are fuel cells to generate electricity using Hydrogen energy at Higashida-Eco-Club-House. It also makes hot water by its heart. In order to utilize this hot water efficiently, we built a footbath outside. This Earth-friendly energy cures visitors to the house.



## International exchange(IE-bar)

We invited international guests, who are exchange students, travelers and trainees, and threw parties at Higashida-Eco-Club. We welcome also Japanese in different backgrounds. We all communicated and exchanged wide variety of information from culture to global environmental problems in English and Japanese.



## Road supporters in Kitakyushu

We worked with city of Kitakyushu to support grass roots groups for cleaning and gardening on streets. We delivered cleaning tools, flowerpots and soils for 75 groups. We are able to create strong networks with volunteers from these grass roots groups through the project.

