

## 1. About Paying Automobile Tax and Fixed Asset Tax

In May, people who own a car or motorcycle will receive a tax notice for automobile tax or light vehicle tax by mail.

Once you receive the notice, please be aware that the payment deadline is June 2nd.

Automobile tax and light vehicle tax can be paid by credit card or smartphone payment apps such as PayPay.

Also, people who own land or houses in the city will receive a fixed asset tax and city planning tax notice.

The due date for the full amount or the first installment is also June 2nd.

Please be sure to pay by the deadline if you receive a notice.

## 2. About Tochigi City's Marriage and New Life Support Subsidy

Tochigi City provides a subsidy to help newly married couples start their new life together.

The subsidy can be used to cover costs such as rent, housing purchase costs, and moving expenses.

Eligible applicants are newlywed households whose marriage was registered between April 1, 2025 and March 31, 2026.

The combined income of the couple from January to December 2024 must be less than 5 million yen.

Both spouses must be under 40 years old at the time of marriage, and they must not be delinquent on city taxes.

Foreign nationals are also eligible, as long as their marriage has been registered with the city office.

The maximum subsidy amount is 300,000 yen.

For example, if your monthly rent is 50,000 yen, the subsidy can cover about 6 months of rent.

Eligible expenses include:

- Rent for rental housing
- Security deposit and key money
- Common service charges
- Agency fees
- Moving costs paid to a moving or transport company
- Home purchase or construction costs

The application period is from April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.

If you are considering applying, please contact the Regional Policy Division at 0282-21-2453.

### **3. Notice of Road Closure (Tobu Nikko Line Railroad Crossing)**

Tochigi City is currently working on the Imaizumi–Izumigawa Line Urban Planning Road Development Project.

As part of construction for a grade-separated bridge over the Tobu Nikko Line, a section of the city road will be closed to traffic.

The closure will take place at the railroad crossing near the former Imaizumi Nursery School.

After the new road opens, this railroad crossing will be permanently closed.

The road will be closed from April 15, 2025 to March 10, 2026.

We apologize for the inconvenience during the construction period and appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

## 4. About Carbon Neutrality

In Japan, extreme heat in the summer has become normal, and typhoons and heavy rains are causing rivers to overflow.

Around the world, we're also seeing more and more unusual weather events such as droughts and heavy rainfall.

This kind of extreme weather is caused by the rise in global temperatures, which in turn is driven by the increase in carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and other greenhouse gases released by human activities.

Do you know the term carbon neutral?

It refers to efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as CO<sub>2</sub>, to net zero, in order to stop global warming.

There are many things we as individuals can do to help with carbon neutrality. One thing you can start with is saving electricity — such as reducing how much power you use on lights, TVs, and air conditioners at home, or switching to energy-efficient appliances.

Fluorescent lamps will no longer be produced or imported/exported starting in 2027.

Replacing incandescent bulbs with LED lights will reduce energy use and help save on electricity bills.

Other actions include:

- Reducing food waste
- Using public transportation instead of driving
- Reducing the amount of trash

Each of us can help build a carbon-neutral society by being mindful of these things in our daily lives.

Let's all take personal action to fight global warming.