

## 1. About the 10th Anniversary of FM Kurara 857

FM Kurara 857, the first community FM broadcasting station in Tochigi Prefecture, began broadcasting in 2015 and celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. It broadcasts live every day for 14 hours, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

When disasters occur in Tochigi City, FM Kurara broadcasts information about the damage situation, evacuation centers, and water supply trucks. In normal times, it broadcasts local events, familiar topics, and timely news.

The Tochigi City International Association hosts a program called “Tochisuke P’s HAPPY TOWN,” where the mayor and city staff appear on weekdays to share city administration information. Within this program, a segment called “Multilingual Information Corner” airs at 11:35 a.m. during the last week of each month, delivering city information to foreign residents in seven languages.

Since April this year, another program titled “Life Across the Sea: Diversity in Tochigi City” airs on the third Saturday of each month at 6 p.m. In this program, volunteer broadcasters from Peru, Nepal, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka share information about their home countries’ traditional cultures and customs with local citizens.

FM Kurara can be listened to on smartphones and other devices by downloading the app. In times of emergency, radio is an effective disaster-prevention medium. Make a habit of getting Tochigi City information through FM Kurara.

## 2. Please Be Careful When Disposing of Products That Use Small Rechargeable Batteries

Do not dispose of products that use small rechargeable batteries—such as mobile batteries, rechargeable toys, electronic cigarettes, or electric toothbrushes—as “burnable” or “non-burnable” garbage. Incorrect disposal can cause fires or explosions.

Small rechargeable batteries cannot be taken to garbage collection stations. Please place them in the “Small Rechargeable Battery Recycling Box” located at “Recycling Partner Stores” such as home appliance retailers. These boxes are also located at Tochigi City Hall’s main building, and at the Ohira, Fujioka, Tsuga, Nishikata, and Iwafune branch offices, as well as Tochigi Clean Plaza.

Dry batteries and coin batteries can be disposed of as “hazardous waste” at garbage collection stations. However, button batteries cannot be disposed of at garbage stations. Please place them in the “Button Battery Collection Can (for button batteries only)” available at home appliance stores. Be sure to inform the store staff when doing so.

Fires in garbage trucks and waste treatment facilities have frequently occurred due to small rechargeable batteries being mixed with burnable or non-burnable garbage. Everyone’s cooperation can prevent fires. Please make sure to sort your garbage correctly.

## 3. About the Tochigi Agri Festa 2025

Jointly hosted by JA Shimotsuke and Tochigi City, the “Tochigi Agri Festa” will be held over two days at two venues.

The first day will take place on Saturday, November 22, at the Tochigi City Ohira Sports Park (No.1 Multipurpose Field) in Kurai, Ohira-machi. The second day will take place on Saturday, December 6, at the Tochigi City General Sports Park (Fountain Plaza) in Kwarada-machi Both days will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine, and anyone is welcome to join.

Local agricultural products will be on sale, and food stalls will be set up. Free vegetable distributions will also be held. On both days, there will be a free rice distribution starting at 9:30 a.m. On November 22, free Chinese chives (nira) will be distributed from 1 p.m., and on December 6, free radishes will be distributed from 1 p.m. All free distributions are limited to the first 200 people, so those interested should come early.