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Notice regarding the “Mixed-Gender Bathing Etiquette Campaign” at Matsukawa Onsen Kyouonso as part of “Thinking of the Mixed-Gender Bath in the Next 10 Years Project”

(From Towada-Hachimantai National Park Office, the Ministry of the Environment)

The Ministry of the Environment promotes “Thinking of the Mixed-Gender Bath in the Next 10 Years Project”. It aims to protect *toji* (therapeutic bathing) and mixed-gender bathing culture that still remain in the Towada-Hachimantai National Park and to address the problems that mixed bathing faces. Specifically, the project aims to achieve mixed bathing that everyone can enjoy, irrespective of generation, gender or nationality. This year, we will conduct a survey and discuss the potential solutions of mixed-gender bathing at Sukayu Onsen as we did last year and Matsukawa Onsen Kyouonso.

The idea of this project meets sustainable development goals, and so we will work to deepen the value of mixed-gender bathing and to pass down the vanishing culture.

While mixed-gender bathing, where you can relax beyond the gender boundary, is an important culture in Japan, it has been slowly but surely disappearing across the country. Due to the rarity, the changing times and needs, the number of Japanese people who shy away from mixed bathing is increasing, particularly among women and young generations. During the “Mixed-Gender Bathing Etiquette Campaign”, we clearly present THREE RULES that everyone should follow in a mixed-gender bath. We also separate the entrance by gender to control the flow of bathers. We hope that this gives an opportunity for those who are reluctant to use mixed bathing to enjoy. This is the attempt to keep mixed-gender bathing culture to the next generations.

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About the Mixed-Gender Bathing Etiquette Campaign at Matsukawa Onsen Kyouonso

The Mixed-Gender Bathing Etiquette Campaign will be launched at Matsukawa Onsen Kyouonso, for a limited period of two days. This campaign is aimed at protecting mixed-gender bathing culture.

Date: 10 am on 4th Feb (Sat) – 2pm on 5th Feb (Sun) 2023

Fee: Day-use hot spring bathing charge

Adult: 600 yen, Children: 300 yen (5 years old to primary school students)

*The day-use hot spring time is from 8am to 7pm (last entry: 6pm)

Content: To aim for mixed-gender bathing that everyone can enjoy in a courteous and safe manner, two key actions are taken;

1. We ask everyone to follow THREE RULES in the mixed bathing open-air bath.
2. We clearly separate the entrance of the mixed-gender bath by gender so that bathers can keep a reasonable distance.

Notes: Male can only enter the mixed bathing open-air from the male indoor bath during this time.

We appreciate your cooperation.

Attachment

Notice regarding the “Mixed-Gender Bathing Etiquette Campaign” at Matsukawa Onsen Kyouonso

Contact

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