

Policies to promote measures against high temperature and to promote the image “a vigorous Tajimi City”

○ Introduction

This year, Tajimi city launched “the 6th Tajimi city comprehensive plan” and aims at the future image” People are vigorous! Tajimi City is Vigorous!”. The keyword of urban design is “Vigor”. For the creation of “Vigorous Tajimi”, it is indispensable for Tajimi citizen to be vigorous. To make people vigorous, it is essential for them to have meaning to life and a comfortable life as well as secure and safe living. Vigorous people flock together like a proverb “Birds of a feather flock together.”, which lead to a vigorous, thriving city.

○ Breaking the previous Japan’s highest temperature record

At 14:20pm, Aug 16, 2007 it recorded 40.9 degrees as Japan’s highest temperature in Tajimi city, which was the hottest day on Japan’s record over the last 74 years.

In response to this, the mayor of Tajimi announced his comment “On Aug. 16th, Tajimi hit the highest temperature recorded in the history of the Meteorological Agency’s weather observation and the high temperature is continuing every day, therefore, we will hold countermeasure conferences to protect citizen’s health and life from high temperature.

In these conferences, we will develop new measures in addition to the measures which we have already promoted and we would like to implement the project to promote the image “a vigorous Tajimi City” by making use of its heat.

○ The cause of high temperature in Tajimi

According to the observation carried out by the civil organization (Tajimi Temperature Measure Association) in 2002 and 2003, the factors of high temperature are the west foehn wind caused by the differences in air pressure and the stagnant warm air caused by basin geographical feature. In the daytime of fair and hot days, we have many west winds and south west winds. They change to a foehn wind that flows down the leeward slope of a mountain range.

○ The examination of measures against high temperature in conferences

Annually, there are about 10 days that the city of Tajimi hits the nation's highest temperature, therefore, preventive measures had been taken by respective department of Tajimi City. But Tajimi registered Japan's highest temperature-40.9 - in the history of the Meteorological Agency's weather observation on Aug.16 2007. Thus, we set up conferences in our city office and all departments began to tackle this matter.

Our major projects implemented in 2007 are as follows:

- 1 . When temperature rose to 37 degrees, water was sprayed by sprinkler trucks around JR station and other places. This project aimed to decrease the temperature by 2 degrees.
2. The warning of heatstroke was automatically forwarded from a heatstroke indicator to individual mobile phones of the residents who registered in our office. (about 2,500 cases)
And signboards giving precaution against heatstroke were put up at public facilities, financial institutions and large scale retail chains.
- 3 . when temperature rose to 37 degrees, a second emergency mail and radio communications were sent in order to call attention to heatstroke,
- 4 . At public facilities, Uchimizu was performed. Rainwater in a storage tank was used for Uchimizu.
- 5 . Welfare commissioners telephoned the people in need of care such as senior citizens living alone and handicapped persons to warn heatstroke.
- 6 . Momordica charantias (bitter melon) were raised for the purpose of awnings at the public institutions such as elementary schools and junior high schools. Preschools, elementary schools, and junior high schools started rooftop gardening. It has been already proven that rooftop gardening lowers the temperature. Young momordica charantias (bitter melons) were distributed to the citizen by request.
- 7 . The king-sized thermometers were installed at the city hall and JR Tajimi station.

8. We purchased the hybrid subcompact car.
9. The local plan to promote measures against global warming was formulated.
10. We held the environmental fair “A-chi-chi(hot) Summit Eco-caravan 2007” to spread and enlighten measures against global warming.
11. We purchased the equipments displaying fuel consumption instantly and installed them in official cars.
12. Social demonstrative experiment, TDM(Transportation Demand Management) was carried out.
13. The project which supports tree planting in private lands was implemented.

○ Tajimi City’s Local Plan to Promote Measures Against Global Warming

This plan was formulated in hopes that citizens, entrepreneurs, and administration comprehensively promote measures against high temperature, the measures(which are appropriate for the local present condition) to curb greenhouse gas emissions, and sustainable social design to escape from warming in order for future children to take over the good environment.

Target area: The city of Tajimi

Project term: Until 2050.

※The targets and policies of 2008-2012 have already been formulated.

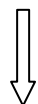
Greenhouse gas target: CO₂(Carbon Dioxide), CH₄(Methane), CO(Carbon Monoxide)

Driving force: citizens, entrepreneurs, administration

※Each role is specified.

Target: To aim at cutting greenhouse gas emitted in Tajimi in half by 2050 from the levels in 1990.

The amount of greenhouse gas emissions in Tajimi in 2004	9,407,000
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2% reduction

The amount of greenhouse gas emissions in 2012	9,226,000
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Household section: 13.8% reduction

Industrial section /transportation section

/business section/ waste section: To sustain the emission amount in 2004

○ Effect of the projects

Ordinary mail for calling attention to heatstroke are sent to individual mobile phone and emergency mail and radio communications are sent and signboard displays urgent warning when temperature rises to 37 degrees, which lead to the prevention of heatstroke. Since 2005, ambulance transportation for heatstroke victims has been increasing, but there has been no serious case so far. Uchimizu and awnings of grown Momordica charantias (bitter melon) can make the temperature fall by several degrees.

○ Projects to impress the vigorous Tajimi

Tajimi is the hottest! Its hospitality is also the hottest!

Tajimi city held the event "Tajimi Grand Tourism Campaign" in Oct.-Dec. in 2007, which is the same period with the event "Hida • Mino Boast Campaign" presented by Gifu prefecture and JR company. And the restaurants in Tajimi showed customers their hottest hospitality. In addition, Tajimi city hosted the General Assembly and Conference of AFHC Japan Chapter on July. 2nd, 2008 and the event "Commemorative Civil Interchange Walking" on July 3rd, 2008 and welcomed the residents of the member cities of AFHC. On Aug.2nd, 2008, we held "Unagappa festival" and people tried to make "Unagappa sushi roll" that was 40.9m long.

○ "Unagappa " was born on Aug.16, 2007 when Tajimi registered the national hottest

temperature. In Tajimi, the porcelain (Mino-ware) city, barbequed eels have been eaten to supplement nutrition while firing potteries. “Unagappa” is the hybrid mascot of the eel and Kappa (Japanese mischievous river-sprite). Kappa is the mascot of Nagase Shopping Center across JR Tajimi Station. A Japanese famous cartoonist, Mr. Takashi Yanase, whose well-known cartoon is “Ampan Man”, created “Unagappa”.

○ Japan's hottest hospitality by Unagappa

- Cuisine development by Unagappa: “Unagappa roll” (barbequed eel and cucumber slice roll) , “Unagappa rice porridge” , “Unagappa”(a cucumber rolled in barbequed eel), “Unagappa rice ball”(The filling is “Unagappa”, a cucumber rolled in barbequed eel)
- Production and sale of Unagappa merchandise: stickers, caps, Unagappa costumes, T-shirts, hand towels
- Installation of signboards of Unagappa: Signboards of Unagappa wearing a costume with a sash and a thermometer are installed in Tajimi city hall, Tajimi Cultural Hall, PR center, Manabi Park, JR Tajimi Station.