Garden Layout Map

Access

- 10 minutes on foot from JR Takao Station North Entrance
- There is no parking space at the Garden.

Instructions for Visitors

- Keep out of the "No Entry" areas.
- It is forbidden to light fires or use portable stoves or other cooking equipment inside the Garden.
- It is not allowed to bring alcohol into the Garden or to drink alcohol inside it.
- Take your garbage home with you.
- Do not pick any of the flora or catch any of the fauna.
- Do not use tripods during busy times or on narrow footpaths.
- It is forbidden to bring dogs or other pets into the Garden.
- Picnic meals should be eaten at the tables that are provided in various places.
- Smoking is forbidden inside the Garden, except at the Smoking Area on the left side of the Forest Science Museum.
- Persons deemed likely to cause offense will be denied entry into the Garden.
- Sales of merchandise, photography for commercial purposes, and the like activities inside the Garden must have advance permission from the Garden President.
- Visitors must follow all instructions that are given by the Garden staff.
- The Garden will be closed whenever warnings of gales, storms or heavy rains are issued, so pay attention to weather information before planning a visit.

Garden admission hours:
From 9:30 am until 3:30 pm, except in April, when opening time is 9:00 am with the same closing time. (Gates are closed at 4:00 pm.)

Admission fees:
April: Adult 400 yen  Child 150 yen
May to March: Adult 300 yen  Child 50 yen

* "Child" means elementary, junior and high school students.

Closing day:
Every Monday (but in the period March through the May Vacation, open every day including Monday)
Where a public holiday falls on a Monday, closed the next day.
Closed from December 26 to January 15.
Cherry-tree Preservation Forest

The Cherry-tree Preservation Forest was established in 1966 as part of a cherry-tree program by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. It preserves cultivated varieties handed down from the Edo Era and grafted clones of numerous cherry-trees including famous varieties from many different districts, forming valuable materials for research. These many varieties all have different blossoming times, so that the blossoming season extends from late February to early May, with a long succession of different blossoms for visitors to enjoy viewing.

Guide to Cherry-tree Observation

Structures of Blossoms and Leaves

- **Calyx lobe**
  - Petal
    - Usually 5 of these, of the same size and shape.
  - Stamen
    - Usually a single one.
  - Blade
    - Has serrated edges.

Morphological Characteristics of Cherry Blossoms

The characteristics of the blossoms of six relatively easily observable wild cherry-tree species in the Cherry-tree Preservation forest are described briefly below.

- **Chojuzakura** *Cerasus apetata*
  - The calyx tube is cylindrical, long and thin. There are numerous hairs on the calyx and leaves. The blossom is small and inconspicuous.

- **Mame-zakura** *Cerasus incisa*
  - The blossom faces downwards. The tree is shrub-like, with small leaves.

- **Edo-bigan** *Cerasus pendula*
  - The calyx tube swells out into a spherical shape. The stalk is of almost no length.

- **Kanbi-zakura** *Cerasus canafluens*
  - Usually the blossoms hang down, without opening out.

- **Yama-zakura** *Cerasus japonica*
  - Reddish-brown shoots grow simultaneously with the white blossoms. The calyx tubes are not serrated.

- **Oshima-zakura** *Cerasus spectabilis*
  - Green shoots grow simultaneously with the white blossoms. The calyx tubes are serrated.

The blossoming season lasts from March to early May, with a long succession of different blossoms for visitors to enjoy viewing.

Arboreums

Some 6,000 trees of around 600 species – principally tall trees for forestry use – grow in the seven hectares of arboretum grounds. The older trees have been in existence for 150 years or longer.

**Broad-leaved evergreen trees**

- **Sukuclei** (family: Fagaceae, genus: Castanopsis)
  - Grows to a height of 20 meters. Species that covers the countryside from southern Tohoku down to Kyushu. Used for plywood and furniture, etc.

- **Camphor tree** (family: Lauraceae, genus: Cinnamomum)
  - Broad-leaved evergreen tree that grows to 1.5-21 meters. Used for construction, decorative material, furniture and sculpture. Formerly the raw material for camphor.

- **Shigetsashi** (family: Fagaceae, genus: Quercus)
  - Grows to a height of 30 meters. Typical of regions with the sap and other items of the sawtoothed oak in June. The tree is shrub-like, with small leaves.
  - **Zelkova serrata**
  - A tree species that reaches a height of 30 meters and is symbolic of the Musashino Diluvial Terrace.
  - **Beech (family: Fagaceae, genus: Fagus)**
  - A tree species that reaches a height of 30 meters. Typical of regions with the sap and other items of the sawtoothed oak in July. The tree is shrub-like, with small leaves.
  - **Japanese cedar (family: Cupressaceae, genus: Cryptomeria)**
  - A tree species that reaches a height of 30 meters. Typical of regions with the sap and other items of the sawtoothed oak in August. The tree is shrub-like, with small leaves.

Animals

The Science Garden is inhabited by a diversity of animals that is rare for suburban forest. Around 16 species of mammals, around 100 species of birds, around 10 species of reptiles and around 7 of amphibians have been confirmed. Varieties that make their homes in good forest environments are also prospering here – the badger, Japanese squirrel, Japanese parrot, phasian, copper pheasant, forest green tree frog, and more. However, the raccoons, Chinese Hwamei and other non-native species that have become a problem in various districts are tending to increase here too. Also, wild boar have been frequently spotted inside the Garden over recent years.

Photograph: Japanese cedar

Photograph: Badger

Photograph: Forest green tree frog

Photograph: Japanese clouded Ayu butterfly sunning sector from a Philaetitia rhodopea. It visits to enjoy various forest species in April and May.

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