

History of Mikawashima Water Reclamation Center

Mikawashima Water Reclamation Center was begun to build from 1914 and the operation started in March 1922, as the first modern wastewater treatment plant “Mikawashima Sewage Disposal Plant” in Japan. The center has been operating with various waste-water treatment processes, which are the Trickling filter process, the Paddle type activated sludge process (taking in air by the paddle rotation) (1936), and the Diffused conventional activated sludge process (1961).



▲Trickling filter process



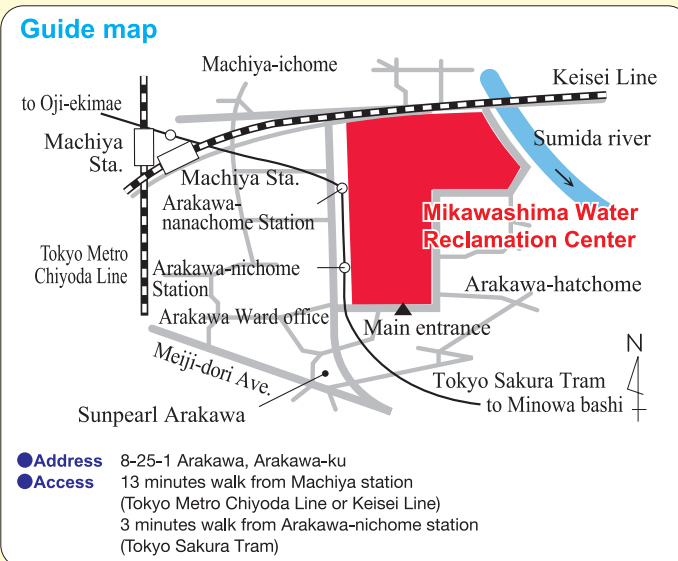
▲Paddle type

Arakawa Sizen Park

We provide the above-ground space of Mikawashima Water Reclamation Center as a park in Arakawa ward. This park consists of two parts in the north and south (61,100m²) and was selected as one of “New Tokyo 100 Views”. There are also baseball field, tennis court, children’s park and traffic garden.



▲Pond in the park



There is a facility to enjoy the experience of learning about the sewerage system, its roles, and the importance of water environment.

- **Business hours:** 9:30 - 16:30
- **Entry Fee:** Free
- **Closed:** Mondays (open on holiday Mondays, closed the next day) and the year-end and New Year holidays
Open daily throughout the summer (July 16 - August 31)
- **Address:** Day (October 1)
2-3-5 Ariake, Koto-ku Ariake
Water Reclamation Center Management office (A-tower)
5th floor
- **Telephone:** 03 (5564) 2458
- **Website:** <https://www.nijinogesuidoukan.jp/>



Beware of crooked dealers who pretend to be related to the Bureau of Sewerage!

The Bureau of Sewerage does not rely on businesses to repair or clean drainage facilities in housing.

● **Tokyo Amesh**
Tokyo Amesh is the system that shows rainfall in and around Tokyo in real time.
The rainfall is measured by radars and ground rain gauges.
※ Tokyo Amesh is the registered trademark of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

● **Sewer Adventure**
Pass the sewer quiz to become a sewer master.

● **Bureau of Sewerage website**
<https://www.gesui.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/>

Facility tours of Water Reclamation Centers

Facility tours of water reclamation centers are available except weekends, holidays, and the New Year's season.

Please contact us about reservations and details.

«Contact point for arranging facility tours»

Telephone: 03 (3241) 0944

Hours: 9:00 ~ 17:00 (weekdays only)

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Water environment cultivated by the district Mikawashima Water Reclamation Center



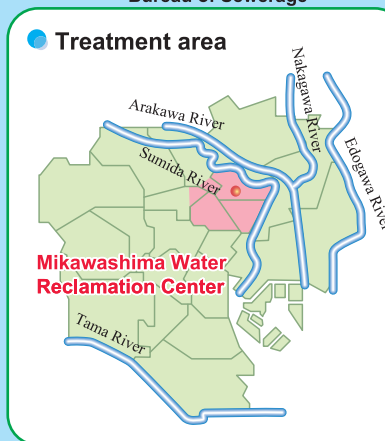
Earth-kun, the mascot of Bureau of Sewerage

Mikawashima Water Reclamation Center is Japan's first modern wastewater treatment plant, which began operation in 1922 as Mikawashima Sewage Disposal Plant. In the center, there are ample greenery, and many cherry blossoms, which make scenic beauty in spring with the red brick facilities of Pumping Station at the Former Mikawashima Sewage Disposal Plant. The treatment area includes all of Arakawa and Taito wards, most of Bunkyo and Toshima wards, part of Chiyoda, Shinjuku and Kita wards, consequently the whole area amounts to 3,936ha.

The treated wastewater is discharged from the center into Sumida River. Some of the treated water is further cleaned by filtration at Higashi-Ogu Purification Center and discharged into Sumida River, or used inside Mikawashima Water Reclamation Center for washing and cooling machines.

The generated sludge is pumped through pressure pipelines to Tobu sludge plant for treatment.

A “Cherry blossoms viewing party” is held in the spring.



(As of April 2025)

- **Operation started : March 1922**
- **Site area : 197,878m²**
- **Treatment capacity : 665,000m³/day**

- **Wastewater treatment facilities**
 Grit chamber : 21
 Primary sedimentation tank : 18
 Reaction tank : 14
 Secondary sedimentation tank : 32
 High-rate filtration system: 1

● Average quality of influent and final effluent

The final effluent from the water reclamation center complies completely with the water quality standards of the Tokyo Metropolitan Environmental Security Ordinance and is sufficiently clean for fish to live in. (Units: mg/L)

Item	Influent			Final effluent		Regional water quality standards
	Ogu series	Aizome series	Asakusa series	Effluent	Higashi-ogu	
B O D	140	180	200	9	2	25 or below
C O D _{Mn}	86	100	100	12	8	—
Total nitrogen	30.8	34.8	33.7	13.5	14.6	30 or below
Total phosphorus	3.3	3.9	4.4	0.5	0.3	3 or below

Average values of 24-hour test conducted in FY2023

※The higher values of BOD and COD indicate the higher levels of water contamination. BOD describes the amount of oxygen required by microorganisms to eat organic material in water, and COD describes the amount of oxygen required by oxidizer to decompose organic material in water. The quality levels of discharged water are specified in terms of BOD for rivers and COD for seas. Total nitrogen and total phosphorus are closely related to the generation of red tides.

