Japanese rules regarding garbage disposal in Japan are notoriously strict and can be a source of confusion for new residents. Here is some information to help you figure out how to read the garbage calendar.



Introduction and general rules regarding garbage disposal

- The place where you can dispose of garbage differs depending on where you live. The best way to know where to put your bags is either to observe the people around you, or to directly ask them. If you don't speak Japanese, you can use the following sentence: "sumimasen, gomisuteba wa doko desu ka?"
 - *Be aware that there is a different place for PET, paper boxes, and white trays. (it is called "shigen-gomi suteishon")
- In Kashiba, there are two main categories of trash: *burnable* and *recyclable* garbage. Recyclable garbage includes, but is not limited to, *PET*, *glass*, *cardboard*, *white food trays*, *newspapers*, etc. these categories are all explained below.
- The collection days vary depending on where you live, so you will have to read the particular calendar that the city provided you when you first moved in.
- We kindly ask you that you always take out your trash on the designated day (not the day before), in a transparent/translucent bag of 451 or less, and before 8 AM.

Categories of trash

Burnable garbage

燃える ごみ

These are the days for burnable garbage. It includes kitchen waste, bedding and carpets, Styrofoam, clothes, pruning scraps, plastic bags, rubber products, old clothes, plushes, etc. (see p.7 for more info)

Bottles



These are the days for glass bottles. This includes drink bottles of beverages, cosmetics or medicines (excluding deleterious drugs). Please take off the lid and rinse the inside. Some bottles are returnable to the store.

Cans







These are the days for aluminum and steel cans. They have the above symbol. For anything pressurized such as spray cans, make sure they are empty and punch a hole in them (this is to prevent explosions)

Harmful waste



This concerns dry cell batteries, fluorescent bulbs, and light bulbs. Please correctly dispose of them separately, regardless of quantity.

Newspapers/Magazines/Cardboard







They all have their own day. Tie them crosswise with a piece of string before taking them to the disposal area.

White Trays





Please wash and dry thoroughly.

PET bottles and paper packs







Paper packs with the above icon such as milk packaging are to be washed, opened, and tied.

PET bottles need to be washed. You need to take the label and the cap off (these go into burnable garbage).