

TOKYO METRO POLITAN

Vestiges of the Musashino region

Akatsuka Park



Fountain



Soft windflower



Soft windflower and hylomecon



Central area



Overview of park

- Opened : June 1, 1974
- Park area : 254,185.06 m² (as of June 1, 2009)
- Numbers of trees: Arbors: Conifers: 960
Evergreen trees: 4,450
Deciduous trees: 2,240
Shrubs: 26,300
- Major plant : Dogwood, fragrant olive, Japanese zelkova, metasequoia, bayberry tree, Kobushi tree (Magnolia kobus), hydrangea, azalea

- Restroom for wheelchairs
- Telephone booth
- Restroom
- Paid parking lot
- AED

Akatsuka Park has the largest soft windflower habitat in Tokyo.

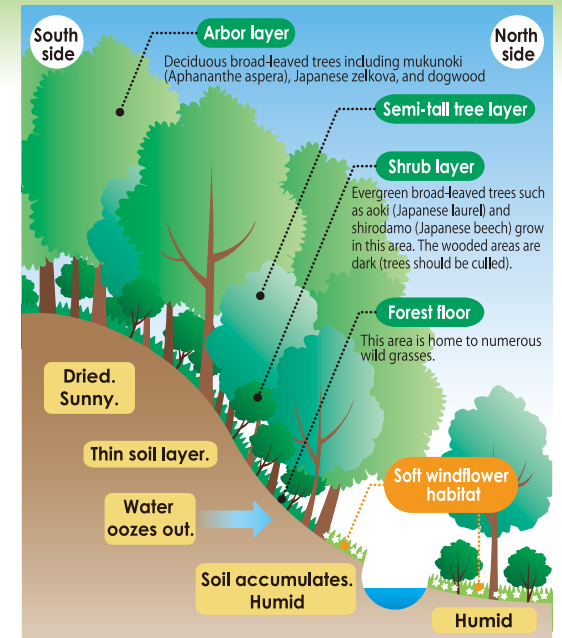


The Daimon area in the Tokyo Metropolitan Akatsuka Park has a soft windflower habitat of a width of 10-20 meters and a length of 200 meters in the east-west direction along the cliff line of the Musashino-daichi tableland.

The cliff line traversing Itabashi Ward exhibits a northward slope. This area is dark and moderately humid due to tree leaf cover in the summer, and sunny due to fallen leaves from the end of autumn to the spring.

The soft windflowers in the Daimon area have survived in this environment from generation to generation. Other than the soft windflowers, the cliff line in the Daimon area in the Akatsuka Park is habitat to various plants native to Musashino that are now rare in Tokyo. The goal is to conserve the cliff line environment, which is home to various kinds of plant life.

Environment where soft windflowers thrive



Akatsuka Park and History

■ Takashimadaira (Tokumarugahara)

The area including the park is a fertile stretch of land expanding outward from the Arakawa river basin, called Tokumaru-tambo or Akatsuka-tambo, which was once a falconry area of the Tokugawa shogunate government.

At the end of the Edo Period, when the U.S., England, and Russia requested trade with Japan, the isolation policy of the shogunate government came under threat by the military powers of Europe and the U.S., where modern industrialization had been ongoing after the Industrial Revolution. In 1814, Shuhan Takashima began working as Nagasaki machidoshiyori-minarai in charge of Dejima-sonaeba, as of which time he learned gunnery from the Dutch. In 1840, he submitted a document entitled "Tempo Josho" to the shogunate government to explain the urgent need for Western gunnery. This was accepted and on May 9, 1841, for the first time in Japan, Shuho demonstrated ball-firing based on Western gunnery and deployment of horse and foot soldiers, proving the power of Western military skills and at the same time making himself famous. The area called Takashimadaira (Takashima hill) was named after Shuho Takashima. The Shogetsuin temple, which was used as the headquarters at the time of the gunnery demonstration, and the Itabashi Historical Museum (03-5998-0081) are adjacent to Akatsuka Park.

Owned by the Itabashi Historical Museum



■ Ruins of Akatsuka-jo castle

Cross the pedestrian bridge from the Daimon area to arrive at the Joshi (castle ruin) area, where you can see the ruins of the Akatsuka-jo castle on the hill. Today there is a forest of ume trees there.

In 1456, supported by Dokan Ohta, Yoritane Chiba conquered this area and became lord of the Akatsuka-jo castle.

Sport facilities (paid)

Athletic field (1), baseball field (1), tennis courts (7)

Booking of the baseball field and tennis courts is computer-managed. To use these facilities, please complete user registration. The Park Service Center accepts applications of user registrations. Please bring some type of identification card such as a driver's license or student ID. For details, refer to the "Guideline for Use of Park Sports Facilities."

- Inquiries: The Akatsuka Park Service Center (Inquiries about this park)
Takashimadaira 3-1, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo 175-0082
Tel: 03-3938-5715 Fax: 03-3938-5922
※ 8:30 to 17:30 (excluding the year-end and new year season)
- Location: Takashimadaira 3-chome, Tokumaru 7- and 8-chome, Yotsuba 2-chome, Daimon, Akatsuka 4-, 5- and 8-chome, Itabashi-ku
- Access: 8-minute walk from Takashimadaira station, Toei Subway Mita line

Visitor Support Center

General inquiries regarding the association

Tel. **03-3232-3038**

※ 8:30 to 17:30 (Excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, and the year-end and new year season)