

# Creation of a Comfortable Urban Environment

## Creating a City Rich in Greenery

A city's greenery—represented mainly by parks and green spaces—serves a variety of roles. It brings a sense of ease and calm to daily life, sustains the urban environment, provides areas for recreation, and can supply space for evacuation in the event of disaster.

The TMG is carrying out the following measures with a view to fostering a city blessed by water and greenery and in harmony with the environment.

### Promoting Development of City-Planned Parks and Green Spaces

To create water and greenery networks and improve Tokyo's disaster-preparedness, the TMG, special wards, cities, and towns formulated the Development Policy for City-Planned Parks and Green Spaces, which was last revised in December 2011. Based on the development policy, which designates sites totaling some 433 hectares as areas for priority development for the period until fiscal 2020, the TMG and municipalities promote systematic development of parks and green spaces.



Tokyo Rinkai Disaster Prevention Park

### Preserving and Creating Greenery on Private Land

With greenery being lost to urbanization, Tokyo and its municipalities jointly revised the Comprehensive Policy for Preserving Greenery in March 2016 to systematically protect the greenery of cliff lines, estate woodlands, and other areas.

Currently, initiatives are being taken to preserve greenery, including designating special conservation zones, and maintaining and increasing agricultural lands through the scenic farmland area conservation system, and promoting the Tokyo greenery preservation project, which supports greenery conservation by citizens' groups in collaboration with a private fund.



Scenic farmland

The TMG also helps municipalities designate additional "productive green lands" (designated agricultural land) and turn such land into parks, so that farmland can be well preserved and utilized.

### Park Development Utilizing the Dynamism of the Private Sector

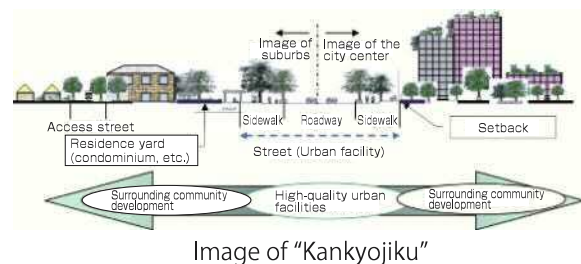
The TMG has put in place a unique privately-run park scheme that encourages the private sector to build undeveloped city-planned parks and green spaces, which can be used as evacuation areas and are open to the public. And in central Tokyo, where there is high potential for development, there is a park and community development system for early realization of a balanced provision of vibrant communities and park functions.

### Utilizing the Guidelines for Greenery Development in Privately Owned Public Spaces

To enhance the value of open spaces created in the process of large-scale urban development, the TMG established the Guidelines for Greenery Development in Privately Owned Public Spaces to facilitate the creation of spaces such as green networks and safe and pleasant areas.

### Creation of Kankyojiku

"Kankyojiku" are networks of urban spaces lush with greenery. These networks are created when the urban facilities that form the infrastructure, including roads, rivers, and parks, and the adjacent communities are developed in an integrated manner to generate broad and substantial greenery, open spaces, and pleasant landscapes.



The TMG is utilizing guidelines on Kankyojiku formulated in 2007 and the Kankyojiku Council established in 2008 to promote the formation of these areas. In addition, the TMG is also working with municipalities to create kankyojiku, learning from areas where the program has already been implemented.

## Water Resources and the Effective Use of Water

The TMG is working with the central government and other authorities to develop water resources to keep city activities and resident life safer from problems such as droughts. TMG initiatives to develop water resources, which began with the construction of the Ogochi Dam on the Tama River completed in 1957, are currently underway at the Yamba Dam.

In addition, to ensure the effective use of our precious water resources, the TMG encourages large building owners and developers to use non-potable water, such as reclaimed wastewater and rainwater, for flushing toilets, sprinkling, and other purposes.



Image of the completed Yamba Dam

## Beautifying the Urban Landscape

To create an aesthetically pleasing urban landscape, it is important to define policies for the creation of Tokyo's landscape as a whole, and to carry out effective measures for the landscape by aligning various initiatives. The TMG is undertaking initiatives for the realization of a beautiful and elegant capital, based on the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Landscape Ordinance and the Tokyo Landscape Plan.

### Landscape Creation Through a Filing and Prior Consultation System

The TMG carries out landscape creation through a system for filing and prior consultation that considers criteria for landscape creation established for "central scenic belts," which are areas with characteristic natural and topographical features that are important to the cityscape of Tokyo as a whole, and "special landscape creation districts," which are areas around gardens designated as cultural treasures and other sites of particular importance in creating a pleasant urban landscape.

For construction of large-scale buildings and other developments that require city planning decisions, a system for prior consultations at the planning stage of the project, before the start of actual application procedures, has been established to encourage plans that give due consideration to the landscape. These include high quality designs around the Imperial Palace and preservation of the scenic landscape of the Diet Building.



Central scenic belt of the Kokubunji cliff line (Chofu City)



Hama-rikyu and Shiba-rikyu Gardens special landscape creation district (Hama-rikyu Gardens)

### Selection of Historic Architectural Structures

Tokyo is promoting the creation of elegant and attractive landscapes by selecting and conserving historically significant structures that convey Tokyo's history and culture.

Among historically valuable architectural structures, which are, in principle, over 50 years old, those that are of significant importance to Tokyo's landscape are selected by the governor (94 as of end December 2018). The government helps to preserve these by providing information boards and other support.

Also, among gardens and architectural structures with historical value, such as cultural properties, those which have an especially high impact on their surroundings in the creation of a good landscape are designated by the governor as "historic landmarks especially important for the landscape" (76 as of end December 2018).



TMG-designated architectural structure of historic value  
Former residence of Count Ogasawara (Shinjuku-ku)



Historic landmarks especially important for the landscape  
Garden of the former residence of the Iwasaki family (Taito-ku)

## Guidelines for Preservation of Historic Landscapes

In order to promote the creation of historic landscapes in areas around TMG-designated architectural structures of historic value and historic landmarks especially important for the landscape, guidelines for preservation of historic landscapes in accordance with the Landscape Ordinance have been formulated to request the due consideration of developers carrying out construction projects near such buildings.



## Illegal Advertising

The TMG is working to prevent the display and posting of illegal advertising through efforts such as the establishment of a penalty system that makes public the names of violators and imposes fees, as well as requiring outdoor advertising permit stickers be affixed to approved advertising materials (program took effect in January 2009).

Starting in fiscal 2005, the TMG made changes to its outdoor advertising business notification system, adopting a registration system for outdoor advertising businesses so that precise guidance can be given to advertising companies.

Furthermore, due to increased public concern about the urban landscape, a campaign to remove abandoned signboards, stickers, posters, and other advertising material placed on utility poles and other roadside facilities has been conducted annually since fiscal 1997 through the cooperation of road management authorities, the police, and the residents of Tokyo.

Cooperative efforts to remove illegal signs along the course of the Tokyo Marathon before the holding of the marathon have also been conducted since 2007.



Campaign to remove illegal advertising

## Recycling of Resources

### Recycling in Construction

In Tokyo, large amounts of construction byproducts, including surplus soil and concrete waste, are generated every year. Efforts are being made to curb the volume of byproducts generated, as well as to reuse them as construction materials, to help reduce impacts on the environment and facilitate Tokyo's sustainable development.

By stipulating goals and rules for recycling, including the formulation of the Tokyo Metropolitan Construction Recycling Promotion Plan, the TMG is promoting efforts ranging from reducing the amounts of construction byproducts to reusing and recycling them.

Notably, as an effort to reuse surplus soil, the TMG has established the Tokyo Metropolitan Center for Recycling of Construction Surplus Soil to treat surplus soil from public works in Tokyo for use as materials for backfill and in other ways.



Tokyo Metropolitan Center for Recycling of Construction Surplus Soil



Soil refining plant