

Guidelines for Flying a Drone in Kirigamine

The Kirigamine Highland is loved and visited by many people. However, we must do so respecting the wildlife and other visitors.

These days, more and more people visit Kirigamine to fly a drone, and we hear increasing number of complaints about the danger and noise of the drones.

Therefore, we have formulated guidelines, with the consent of the landowners*, to prevent damage to the wildlife, and to protect the environment for all visitors to enjoy safe and peaceful Kirigamine.

We ask for your kind attention in flying a drone in conformity with the guidelines.

1. Purpose

The purpose of these guidelines is to conserve the natural environment of Kirigamine, secure safety of the visitors, and maintain pleasant resort environment. To achieve the purpose, we will provide regulations regarding necessary items in additions to the Civil Aeronautics Act and other related regulations, regarding flying a drone in areas including Kirigamine, in Yatsugatake-Chushin Kogen Quasi-National Park.

2. Drones and Areas Included in the Guidelines

The drones and areas included in the guidelines are as follows:

(1) Drones:

All drones including toy drones weighing less than 200g

(2) Areas:

a. The Kirigamine area indicated on the attached map

b. The surrounding areas of Lake Shirakaba (owned by Kashiwabara Financial Ward, Chino City)

3. Responsible Organizations and Purposes

Flying a drone in the areas mentioned above is limited to the following organizations and purposes:

(1) Responsible organizations:

National Government, local governments, educational institutes, academic and research organizations, local tourism associations, and Suwa Tourism Association.

(2) Purposes of flying drones

a. Survey and research

b. Publicizing tourism and natural environment

4. Necessary License, etc.

The pilots must have a skill certificate issued after the publication date by a school or management organization of unmanned aerial vehicles listed on the official website of the Civil Aviation Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Japan, except for the flights for the purpose of survey and research.

The drones must have GPS and a liability insurance.

5. Dates

From the viewpoint of securing safety of the visitors and maintaining pleasant resort environment, flights are not permitted, in principle, on weekends and holidays when the park has many visitors.

6. Cautions for Operating Drones

Please pay attention to the park visitors and wildlife when you fly a drone.

In addition, please do not fly a drone near the weather radar in Kurumayama, since drones may crash due to the frequency of the Kurumayama Weather Radar, and it may affect the weather radar.

7. What to Do When a Drone Crashes

Since the areas included in the guidelines are part of a Quasi-National Park, if your drone should crash, please follow the prescribed procedures immediately in conformity with the Natural Parks Act, retrieving the drone and restoring the area following the instructions by the park manager.

If your drone should crash into the marshland, which is a Designated Natural Monument, the act of retrieving your drone is an act of trampling plants. Therefore, you must apply for permission to alter a current state in conformity with the Cultural Properties Protection Act. It will take about two months for the Government to grant permission to you. Retrieval of your drone must be done after receiving the permission, under the instructions by an expert to minimize the load on the plants and marshland.

8. Application and Report

If you wish to fly a drone in the areas included in the guidelines, you must apply for the flight five days prior to the event at Kirigamine Nature Center or the office of Kirigamine Natural Environment Conservation Council, using designated forms. In addition, please make arrangements about flight areas with Suwa City Glider Association if you wish to fly your drone in the Kirigamine area, or with Hashigamine RC Soaring Club if you wish to fly your drone in the Lake Shirakaba area.

Additionally, the pilot must wear bibs (vest), and report the content of the flight to the office you have submitted application to, within three days after the date of the flight.

Application and inquiries:

April 15-November 15: (Except Wednesdays, 8:30am-5:15pm)

Kirigamine Nature Center (7718-9 Kirigamine, Shiga, Suwa City)

TEL: 0266-53-6456, E-mail : info@kirigamine-vc.jp

November 16-April 14: (Except weekends and holidays, 8:30am-5:15pm)

Kirigamine Natural Environment Conservation Council (c/o Environment Division, Suwa Regional Development Bureau, Nagano Prefecture (1-1644-10 Kamigawa, Suwa City)

TEL: 0266-57-2952, E-mail : suwachi-kankyo@pref.nagano.lg.jp)

9. Effective Date:

April 1, 2020

10. Other Remarks:

- We will share the content of your flight application with the landowners, and you may be asked to meet with them to discuss the flight.
- These guidelines will not apply for search and rescue, or an emergency flight to confirm disaster situations.
- You may be asked to cancel your flight due to the weather or for environment conservation.
- These guidelines will be reviewed as necessary in accordance with the revision of the law on drones, the environment around Kirigamine, and flight situations.

- If you wish to use a road based on Article 2, Paragraph 1 of the Road Act (a so-called public road), you must get permission to use it from the police
- The landowners* of Kirigamine are members of our council. We discussed the content of these guidelines in the process of formulation, and have agreement on the content.

※Landowners (In random order)
 Kamikuwabara Pasture Cooperative, Shimokuwabara Pasture Cooperative, Kowata Pasture Cooperative,
 Kirigamine Kohigashi Pasture Cooperative, Kirigamine Highland Pasture Cooperative,
 Monomiishi Pasture Dairy Farming Cooperative, Yonezawa Kita Oshio Financial Ward, Chino City,
 Kitayama Kashiwabara Financial Ward, Chino City, Nanshin Forest Management Office

(Attached map) The areas included in the guidelines

April 1, 2020
 Kirigamine Natural Environment
 Conservation Council

