



Located roughly in the center of the Tokachi Plain in eastern Hokkaido, Obihiro is a city with a population of about 170,000.

Tokachi, with its large scale dry-field, dairy and livestock farming, is a food supply base worthy of representing Japan as symbolized by its high food self-sufficiency rate of 1,249%. Situated in the center of the region, Obihiro has been playing the role of a center of agriculture and other industries and urban functions. The natural environment as typified by clear air, pure water, and lush greenery is an important foundation to support this key industry.

The city aims to become “rural eco-model city Obihiro” in which an urban city, farming village, and nature coexist by effectively utilizing local characteristics and taking care of natural environment.

Cultivation and Utilization of Obihiro no Mori

Obihiro no Mori (Obihiro Forest) is an urban park developed under the concept of “restore forests in the fields they were cleared from over the next 100 years,” which is about 550m wide and 11km long, with an area of 406.5ha.

Enveloping the entire city in a green network by creating a forest at the southwestern part of the city to connect riparian forests along the Tokachi River and the Satsunai River, Obihiro no Mori plays a role of preventing the disordered expansion of housing areas into the city outskirts, and separating urban areas from rural ones.

Since 1975, forest restoration including planting and fostering trees has advanced with the active participation of a large number of citizens. Now Obihiro no Mori is utilized as a place for nature observation and environmental education with grown trees forming a forest landscape.



Obihiro no Mori

Use of Abundant Biomass

Tokachi has various types of biomass including wood biomass, agricultural residue, livestock excrement and food waste. There have been initiatives to use livestock excrement for energy or compost, use forest residue for fuel, and produce and use bioethanol and biodiesel fuels (BDF).

In June 2013, 19 municipalities in the Tokachi region were designated as biomass industry cities. Tokachi aims to establish a sustainable regional economy and form a unique and attractive local community by multi-stage use of the region's biomass in the whole Tokachi region and developing industrial measures by combining efforts in food, agriculture, and forestry.



Food Production Center Representing Japan

Model Project to Reuse Waste Edible Oil from Homes

With an eye toward waste reduction, effective use of biomass, and heightening the environmental consciousness among citizens, the city has been conducting the Model Project to Reuse Waste Edible Oil from Homes since 2008 in which waste edible oil from general households is collected, refined to BDF, and reused.

Obihiro City, NPOs that collect oil, and supermarkets, etc., where the oil is collected, concluded an agreement, and they are making efforts for their roles while cooperating with each other and citizens.

The collected amount of reuse waste edible oil from homes in fiscal 2015 was 69,300 L, and refined BDF has been used for fuel for private buses, delivery trucks for supermarkets, official cars, etc.



BDF mixed 18t large trailer