

Initiatives of the Yaskawa Mirai (Future) Club

Members of the Yaskawa Mirai (Future) Club, who are employees of Yaskawa Electric and our Group companies, contribute to the community by doing volunteer work, holding events and making donations to various groups.

At Yaskawa Electric's 90th anniversary of its foundation in 2005, the Yaskawa Mirai (Future) Club was established to express our gratitude to our customers, shareholders, residents of the local community, and to many others for their support over the years, as well as to fulfill our role as a good corporate citizen.

Among their specific activities, Yaskawa Electric and Group company employees who endorse the goals of the club and voluntarily participate in it continuously put a portion of their salary aside in installments as donations, and the accumulated donations are used to support groups working in three fields: medicine and welfare, a sound upbringing for young people, and protecting and greening the environment.

We also plan to canvass for members' ideas about activities, groups to support, and so on, and we want to continue building up our activities. While the amount contributed by each person may be modest, when many employees participate it adds up to a large amount that is helpful to the community. We will continue to recruit new members to help make a difference in the community.

Volunteer Program for Clearing Bamboo Groves and Protecting the Traditional Satoyama Environment

Since March 2007, we have taken part in the activities of the Kitakyushu Biotope Network Research Group, a non-profit organization that conducts environmental protection programs centered on improving bamboo groves and conserving Satoyama (areas featuring a traditional mix of cultivated and wooded land) in Fukuoka Prefecture. About 10 members volunteer to participate in these activities on the second Saturday of every month. One purpose of this bamboo grove improvement and satoyama conservation program is to clear out groves of Moso bamboo (*Phyllostachys edulis*), a non-native species that has been multiplying at a tremendous rate in the Kyushu and Yamaguchi regions in particular, in order to conserve the local satoyama. The other purpose is to systematically cultivate groves of bamboo that are said to absorb four times more CO₂ during their growing season than ordinary plants, and by improving these bamboo groves to contribute to global environmental protection.



Cutting bamboo Hauling out

Cleared out bamboo

Support for Various Groups

The Yaskawa Mirai (Future) Club provides funding for activities of various groups contributing to society.

Recipients of our support in 2010 included the Mulindi Japan One Love Project, a non-governmental organization that founded prosthetic limb factories to assist the handicapped people in Rwanda and Burundi in Africa.

Major Activities in FY2010

- April 2010 - Volunteers participated in the clearing of bamboo groves and conservation of Satoyama (monthly event)
 - March 2011 We carry out volunteer activities of collecting cancelled postage stamps and PET bottle caps for fundraising
 - April - October Farming experiences through Yaskawa Junior Eco-Club
 - August Support for J-Leader Program to foster Japan's next-generation leaders
 - October Support for Champion's Cup International Wheelchair Basketball Tournament (participation as volunteer supporters)
 - Held nature workshops at Itozu-no-Mori Zoological Park
 - November Conducted beach cleanup volunteer event
 - Donated to Manner Kids Project (NPO)
 - December Contribution to Hokujitsukai, a non-governmental organization for sports and health
- 2011**
- February Contribution to Mulindi Japan One Love Project
 - March Supported International Wheelchair Tennis Tournament 2011 Kitakyushu

Nature Workshop Held at the Itozu-no-Mori Zoological Garden

The Yaskawa Mirai (Future) Club organized a nature workshop for employees and their families. The purpose was to give children, the leaders of the next generation, opportunities for close contact with nature and the plants and animals that inhabit it. Teaching them the importance of ecosystems and living things is intended to foster caring and consideration for life itself.

The Yaskawa Mirai (Future) Club donated to the Itozu-no-Mori Zoological Garden Foundation in FY2010.

Thanks to the cooperation of the Itozu-no-Mori Zoological Garden, the children were given an excellent opportunity to have contact with animals, learn about the lives of animals, and so to gain a sense of how precious life and living things are. We hope to organize further special events in the future to provide enjoyable learning experiences for our employees and their family members.



Nature workshop organized by the Yaskawa Mirai (Future) Club

