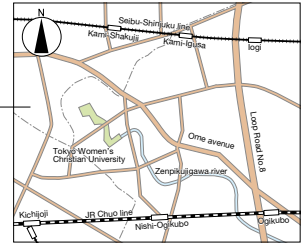


Zenpukuji Park

Administrator ■ Tokyo Metropolitan Park Association

- Location Location Zenpukuji 2/3-chome, Suginami Ward
- Contact Information Zenpukuji Park Administration Office tel: 03-3396-0825 (3-9-10 Zenpukuji, Suginami-ku 167-0041)
- Transport Zenpukuji-Koen-mae bus stop on Kanto Bus for Minami-Zenpukuji from Ogikubo (JR Chuo line).
5-minute walk from Zenpukuji bus stop on Kanto or Seibu Bus for Kami-Shakujii or Oizumi-Gakuen from Nishi-Ogikubo (JR Chuo line).
5-minute walk from Zenpukuji bus stop on Kanto or Seibu Bus for Nishi-Ogikubo from Kami-Shakujii (Seibu-Shinjuku line).



Zenpukuji Pond forms the centerpiece for this park. Its water is so clear that it was once used to supplement the Kanda water supply. The amount of water feeding the pond is large, making it one of the top three spring-fed ponds in the Musashino area. A temple that once stood in the area is said to be the origin of the pond's name.

The pond is separated into upper and lower ponds, having an area of about 37,000 m² combined and taking up 47% of the entire park. Ducks, little grebes, moorhens, and other waterfowl as well as kingfishers visit the pond.

Waterside colors

The upper pond with boat dock is a wide, bright pond with two islands. The larger island is dedicated to the goddess of fortune.

It is rich in its rural beauty as half of the lower pond is cov-

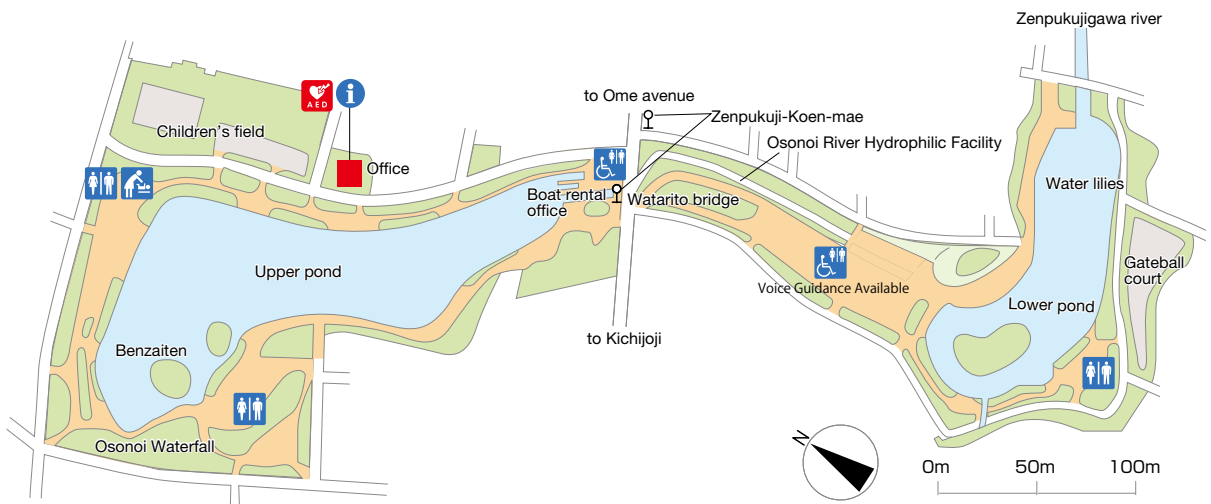


Upper pond

ered with common reed and other aquatic plants while dense forest surrounds the pond.

Osonoi (slow well)

This is one of the springs feeding Zenpukuji Pond. Its origins date far back. Legend says that about 800 years ago in 1189, Yoritomo Minamoto dug here for drinking water on his way to conquer Oshu. Water would not come out, as a severe drought was ongoing; but by digging with his bow seven times, water at last started to flow. The spring was named Osonoi, which means slow well, as it took so long for water to come out. Today, the spring has dried up; so water is pumped from a new well to recreate the Osonoi waterfall.



Opened / June 16, 1961 Area / 80,264.47 m² Trees / Tall trees: 2,700 , Shrubs: 5,300 m²

Main plants / Ginkgo , sawtooth oak , Japanese zelkova , cherry , Chinese evergreen oak , cedar , buckeye , stone oak , hydrangea , cotton rosemallow , water lily , Metasequoia

Facilities / Playground, boat dock, gateball court