As one of the largest cities in the world, Tokyo spreads out from the mainland to the Ogasawara Islands, or over 1,900 km from north to south, and has a variation in elevation of more than 2,000 m. Tokyo consists not only of urban central areas with green space, including roadside trees and parks but also of different natural environments: suburbs partly covered with woods and fields, satoyama (open light-filled woodland near populated areas) and hilly terrain full of biodiversity, steep mountain areas overrun by primeval forests, and islands, including the Ogasawara Islands registered as a natural World Heritage site.
Greening in Urban Areas

In accordance with the Greenery Program, TMG has been creating greenery in parallel with urban development. These efforts helped achieve an improvement for the first time in the percentage of green and blue spaces (water areas) in the 23 wards since the research was started. We plant trees to nurture biodiversity and flowers to express the Japanese spirit of omotenashi, or hospitality, enriching people’s lives with the comfort such green spaces bring.

Luxuriant Nature in Urban Neighborhoods

It only takes approximately 50 minutes to get from downtown Tokyo to Mt. Takao. Many citizens of Tokyo enjoy hiking trails guiding them through this intimate natural environment. Famous as a tourist spot registered by Michelin and property of the Head Temple Takao-san Yakuo-in, it offers an ecosystem of abundant nature despite its proximity to central Tokyo. And its carefully conserved nature is well-deserving of its world famous reputation.

Ogasawara Islands Registered as World Heritage Site in June 2011

Consisting of over 30 islands, the Ogasawara Islands are located in the North West Pacific 1,000 km south of Tokyo, where dolphins and whales inhabit a beautiful blue ocean. Geological features on the island show the evolutionary process of oceanic island arcs. These islands have never been part of any continent, and so the living creatures able to reach the islands over the sea could survive only by adapting to the environment. The Ogasawara Islands were evaluated as an area with a precious ecosystem and registered as a natural World Heritage site in June 2011 as they reveal the evolution of and connection between living things not seen in any other areas.

To protect the value of the World Heritage site, we are removing influential alien species while conserving decreasing endemic species. We are also developing ecotourism to help protect and properly use valuable natural resources and are striving to prevent the entry of new alien species.