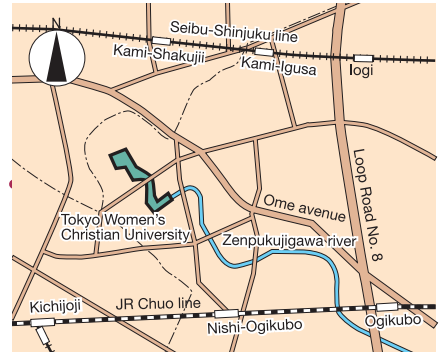


Two ponds surrounded by greenery

# Zenpukuji Park



<p><b>Location</b> ● Location Zenpukuji 2/3-chome, Suginami Ward</p> <p><b>Contact information</b> ● Zenpukuji Park Administration Office tel: 03-3396-0825 (3-9-10 Zenpukuji, Suginami-ku 167-0041)</p> <p><b>Transport</b> ● 5-minute walk from Zenpukuji bus stop on Kanto or Seibu Bus for Kami-Shakujii or Ozumi-Gakuen from Nishi-Ogikubo (JR Chuo line). 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 Nishi-Ogikubo from Kami-Shakujii (Seibu-Shinjuku line).</p>	
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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 m<sup>2</sup> combined and taking up 47% of the entire park. Ducks, little grebes, moorhens, and other waterfowl as well as kingfishers visit the pond.

<b>Opened</b>	June 16, 1961
<b>Area</b>	78,622.03 m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Trees</b>	Tall trees: 2,700 Shrubs: 5,300 m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Main plants</b>	Ginkgo, sawtooth oak, Japanese zelkova, kobushi magnolia, cherry, Chinese evergreen oak, cedar, buckeye, stone oak, hydrangea, cotton rosemallow, water lily
<b>Facilities:</b>	Playground, boat dock, gateball court

**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.

About 100 water lilies float on the pond, but they are surrounded by poles to protect them from damage by boats. They bloom with white flowers from June through August.

Hydrangeas and cotton rosemallows are planted around the pond. The blueviolet hydrangea flowers and pink water lily flowers bloom one after another.

Close to half of the lower pond is covered with reeds and other aquatic plants. But the side near Zenpukujigawa River has pink water lilies, adding color to the green pond. Also, there are a surrounding the pond is well wooded,

making it more rustic than the upper pond.



Water lilies on the lower 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.

