

Restoration of Mikawa Bay.

Results of the Mikawa Bay Cleanup Community Action Group, has been the increase of EM and members of the group.



Indian porpoises reappeared in Mikawa Bay. A large number of wild sweetfish run in the Yahagi River. Bountiful catch of Manila clam, egg cockle, etc. Now, Mikawa Bay shows how effective EM activities are.

The Mikawa Bay Cleanup Community Action Group was established in 2002 and their activities are expanding every year. This is a voluntary activity with the concept of “becoming excited by environmental cleanup”. They have started to apply A-EM to many kinds of area with enjoyment.

A-EM has been poured into regional rivers, including the drain of members’ homes, hotels, corporations, the septic tank of a pig farm, and paddy fields. The amount of A-EM used has been increasing so even members do not know how much has been used. And results started to show in specific ways.

■ Confirmed shoal of Indian porpoises sighted

The Indian porpoise is the smallest dolphin in the world and is designated as an internationally protected animal. Though they had originally lived in Mikawa Bay, their numbers decreased every year and their existences were on the ropes. However, in recent years, there have been many chances to see the Indian porpoises around fish boats and yachts. This tells you their numbers are increasing and evidence of the restoration of Mikawa Bay.

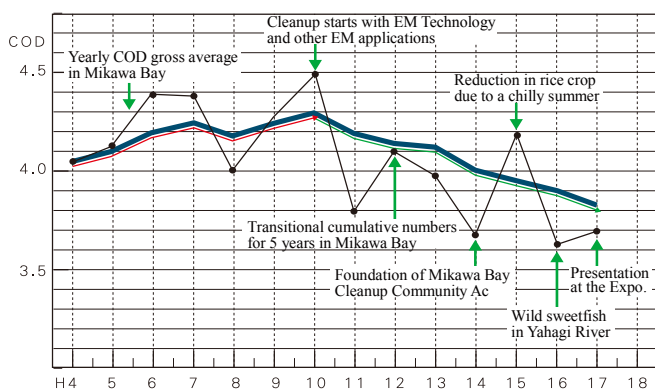
■ A large number of wild sweetfishes started to run

While wild sweetfishes have drastically decreased throughout the country, the running of wild sweetfishes have increased tremendously at the Yahagi River into Mikawa Bay. This is after a year of using large amounts of EM Technology in the region formally known as Asume-Cho. The number of sweetfishes has especially significantly pushed the figure to its highest mark ever in early May of this year.

■ Grabbing Manila clams and egg cockles in various regions

“Hazu, Uminet”, the project of Hazu-Cho, requested and started using EM Technology last July. Then the picture of the harbor and branching bay changed and a big shallow place recovered, a place where it was once called the “Cradle of life” (it means many kinds of living things growing). A large amount of young shells are caught in the shallow place, and a tremendous amount of Manila clams and egg cockles are coming from where not only the clams gather, but also from coasts where they have never been found before.

■ The interannual changes (COD) in the sea quality of 5 area cities around Mikawa Bay and results of the activities of the Mikawa Bay Cleanup Community Action Group



Gross average of 31 measurements of 5 cities (below) around Mikawa Bay and graph of transitional cumulative numbers for 5 years.

| | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Handa | (6 measurements) |
| Hekinan | (4 measurements) |
| Nishio | (10 measurements) |
| Gamagoori | (7 measurements) |
| Toyohashi | (4 measurements) |

The graph is based on 5 years of transitional cumulative numbers replacing the COD average of the whole bay area. This is because Mikawa Bay is susceptible to weather such as rainfall, typhoon and temperature due to the enclosed and depthless (10m average) inner bay. Therefore, the graph shows large variations in COD.



■ Mikawa Bay Cleanup Community Action Group is meeting at Anguru cafe.