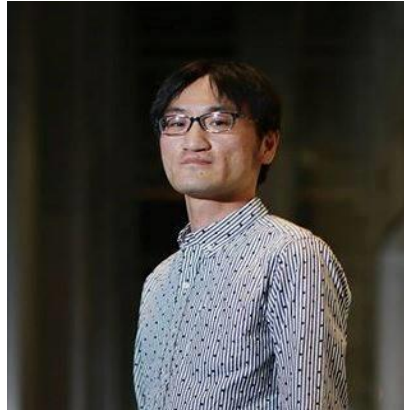


Akihiro Yoshikawa
Representative, Appreciate Fukushima Workers



Born in 1980, Yoshikawa graduated from high school at Toden Gakuen in 1999. He then commenced work with Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. Specializing in the management of radioactive waste, his work included site management, maintenance, and dealing with inspections by regulatory authorities. He was transferred to the Fukushima Daini Nuclear Power Plant in 2008, and was working at the plant when it was hit by the tsunami on March 11, 2011. He returned to the Daini plant following the disaster to take part in recovery work.

Yoshikawa had been living with his wife in the nearby town of Namie, but after the disaster, the couple fled to the Hisanohama area in the nearby city of Iwaki. They now live with relatives who also fled the affected region in evacuee housing provided by the government.

In June of 2012, Yoshikawa left TEPCO. In November the following year, he founded the Appreciate Fukushima Workers (AFW) group. In July 2015, the group was transformed into a general incorporated association. The group is actively involved in conducting lectures based on the actual experiences of those who are involved in the cleanup at the stricken plant, and its activities aim to support the next generation of those responsible for the recovery of the areas affected by radiation exposure. Yoshikawa also writes privately for Huffington Post Japan and Yahoo! News on various topics related to the Futaba district in Fukushima Prefecture.