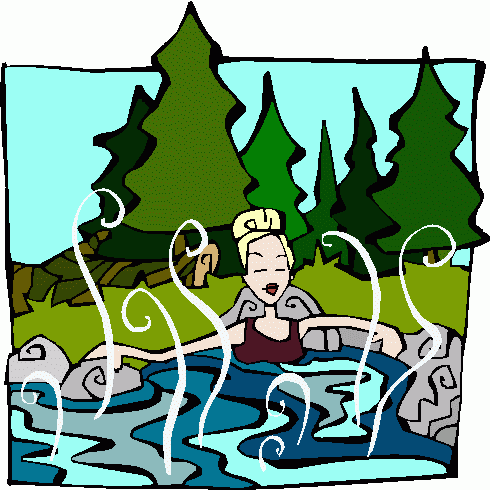
**HOT SPRING**

Over the history of the development of therapeutic spas, hot springs have been regarded as a valuable resource for preventive health care in many countries. People can combine hot springs with natural and human resources for relieving stress, rehabilitation, and recuperation. In 1993, approximately 1,700 resorts in Europe had healing spas. Japan currently has 3,000 spa resorts of various sizes and styles. In 2008, tourists from all over the world visited Japanese hot springs for leisure and holiday purposes. Meanwhile, European countries considered hot spring resorts as a place for health promotion and disease rehabilitation. There are many similarities between Taiwan and Japan, such as culture and resources.