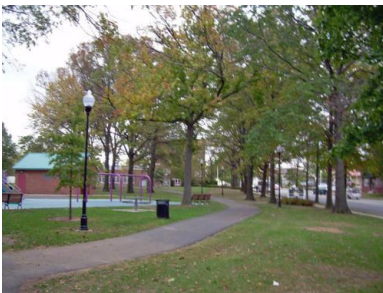


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Community Information - Fords, NJ

Fords, NJ, is one of the boroughs connected with Woodbridge Township, along with Iselin, Avenel, Woodbridge, Colonia and others. If your looking for a charming town to raise a family, look no further than the lovely town of Fords; located right in the heart of Middlesex County, sharing a boarder with Edison and Perth Amboy. As of the census of 2000, there were 15,032 people, 5,591 households, and 4,014 families residing in the CDP. The population density was 2,240.9/km². There were 5,688 housing units at an average density of 2,194.9/mi². There were 5,591



households out of which 31.6% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 56.7% were married couples living together, 10.9% had a female householder with no husband present, and 28.2% were non-families. 23.4% of all households were made up of individuals and 10.2% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.69 and the average family size was 3.21.

The median income for a household in the CDP was \$61,015, and the median income for a family was \$68,652. Males had a median income of \$49,141 versus \$36,591 for females. The per capita income for the CDP was \$25,917. About 2.4% of families and 3.4% of the population were below the poverty line, including 3.5% of those under age 18 and 5.4% of those age 65 or over. Fords has 2 elementary schools: Ford Avenue School#14 and Lafayette Estates School#25 and 1 middle school: Fords Middle School. The schools are a part of the Woodbridge Township School District. At the time of the last survey, 9,219 people in the community had a high school degree, or 86.3 of the population (compared to the national average of 80.4%).



Though it is part of a large township, Fords maintains its small town charm with several community events, including: Middlesex County Apple Picking Orchards and Apple Farms Guide for Middlesex County, Pumpkin Patch Farms and Pumpkin Picking Guide for New Jersey NJ, and Apple Picking Orchards and Apple Farms Guide for New Jersey NJ, along with community pool and beautiful Washington Park.



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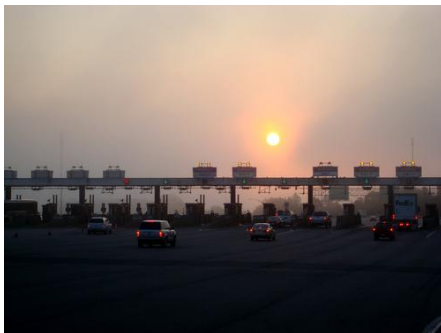
Fords - Location and Transportation

Strategically situated within Middlesex County; this location, Fords, a smart move with a simple commute to New York City. Fords is located less than two miles from a number of the state's major arteries, which include the New Jersey Turnpike, the Garden State Parkway, Interstate 287, U.S. Highway 1 and State Highway 27, making Fords a strategic placement for all

major highways in New Jersey.

From Fords, Manhattan can be reached within a mere 25 miles northeast making it a simple ride to be in the heart of the greatest city in the world. What's more, aside from driving, it is an easy commute to bustling New York City by train or bus, or to Newark, Trenton or nearby Rutgers University in New Brunswick from the New Jersey Transit Stop in nearby Princeton.

The transit station, less than two miles from



Fords, serves as a connection point for many local New Jersey Transit bus routes, making Fords the perfect placement for easy transportation. These routes provide a connection between Metuchen and Colonia, Plainfield, Perth Amboy, Raritan, Piscataway, Edison and any number of locations with relative ease. In Fords, if one does not care to walk, convenient parking and other amenities are offered for those utilizing the train station as well. Also, just a mere 20 miles from Fords, air transportation is readily available to

travelers through Newark International Airport, also easily reached through a simple train transfer route through Newark Penn Station. Allowing anyone to travel from their home in Fords to anywhere in the world, creating a new advantage to Fords.

Walking is another option for Fords residents. With a small town feel, yet easy access, makes walking an enjoyable experience through the town. Each route one walks throughout this town offers a wonderful, gorgeous, scenic view, beginning in a different section of the community, leads to the downtown area and nearby neighborhoods in this quaint town, making these pleasant walking routes easy to admire the surrounding area along the way. All these routes are easily accessible from any location in Fords.



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Historic Colonia and Woodbridge Township

The township of Woodbridge is named after Reverend John W. Woodbridge (1613–1691) of Newbury, Massachusetts. The Township of Woodbridge is the oldest original township in the state of New Jersey. According to Joshua Coffin, the early settlers included "Captain John Pike, the ancestor of General Zebulon Montgomery Pike, who was killed at the battle of Queenstown in 1812, Thomas Bloomfield, the ancestor of Joseph Bloomfield, some years governor of New Jersey, John Bishop, senior and junior, Jonathan Haynes, Henry Jaques, George March, Stephen Kent, Abraham Toppan, junior, Elisha Ilsley, Hugh March, John Bloomfield, Samuel Moore, Nathaniel Webster, John Ilsley, and others." ⁶⁶ It was settled in the



early autumn of 1664 and was granted a charter on June 1, 1669 by King Charles II of England, and reincorporated on October 31, 1693. Woodbridge Township was incorporated by an Act of the New Jersey Legislature on February 21, 1798. Portions of the township were taken to form Rahway (April 19, 1858), Raritan Township (March 17, 1870, now Edison Township) and Roosevelt (April 11, 1906, now Carteret).



Woodbridge, specifically Fords, Was The Home To The Jersey Blues, A Militia Group That Was Intent On Protecting Colonial New Jersey. The Jersey Blues Were Instrumental To Help The withdrawal Of British Troops During The Revolutionary War. Besides Making An Impact On Our Independence, The Jersey Blues Provided Other Services To Woodbridge Township Citizens. The Blues Were A Heroic Force That Were Often Praised By General George Washington And Other Continental Army Officers. The Blues Were One Of The Only Militias That Went Into Service When Others Refused. The Blues Fought In The Civil War And Many Other Conflicts. After The Spanish - American War, the Jersey Blues Started 3 Fire Companies in Woodbridge, Perth Amboy, And Piscataway. What may be said to be the first anti-slavery meeting ever held in the United States was held in Woodbridge on the 4th of July, 1783, seven years after the Declaration of Independence and six years before George Washington was inaugurated as President of the United States. This meeting was held on the farm of Moses Bloomfield, a surgeon in the Continental Army, located north of Freeman



Street where Barron Avenue runs through Prospect. In 1789 The Man Who Would Become The First President Of The United States Of America General George Washington, While Passing Thru New Jersey On His Way To New York For His Presidential Inauguration Stayed At The Cross Keys Tavern With New Jersey Governor Livingston. The Cross Keys Tavern Was Located On Main Street In Woodbridge's Downtown Area, But Was Later Moved Near Amboy Avenue, Where It Now Stands Behind The 7



- Eleven. Woodbridge was location for the First Ever Safety - Engineered Highway System. In 1929, the connection to Route 1 and Route 35 was made into a "Cloverleaf" Connection. The 2 Highways Are Situated Together Where They Have On Ramps And Off Ramps To Connect To Northbound And Southbound Of Both Highways.



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