Bernards Township 2020 Profile

Area: 24.5 sq. miles
Population: 26,743 (2010 Census); 28,682 (Current Estimate)

2019 Municipal Budget $39,113,636.40

2019 Library Budget $2,400,487.00

2019 Tax Levy: $138,824,029.00
County $22,610,677.62, School $91,387,676.00
County Open Space $2,110,274.99, Municipal $20,314,913.39
Library $2,400,487.00

2019 Tax Rate/$100: $2.034
County $.332, School $1.339, County Open Space $.031
Municipal $.297, Library $.035,

Police Force: 38

Form of Government: Township Committee

James Baldassare, Jr.
Mayor
Term Expires 12/31/2020

Joseph F. Esposito
Deputy Mayor
Term Expires 12/31/2021

John Carpenter
Term Expires 12/31/2020

Joan Bannan Harris
Term Expires 12/31/2021

Janice M. Fields
Term Expires 12/31/2022
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## Location of Services

Mailing Address: 1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
Main Phone: 908-766-2510  
Emergency (Police, Fire, First Aid): 911  
Web: www.bernards.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ADMINISTRATION BUILDING</strong></th>
<th><strong>ENGINEERING SERVICES BUILDING</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Collyer Lane</td>
<td>277 S. Maple Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 908-766-2510</td>
<td>Phone: 908-204-3018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Administration
- Computer Systems Administrator
- Finance
- Mayor & Township Committee Office
- Parks, Recreation, Pool, Golf
- Personnel
- Pool Commission
- Prosecutor
- Purchasing
- Senior Citizens Information
- Tax Assessor
- Tax Collector
- Township Clerk
- Train & Bus Decals
- Violations Bureau/Court Administrator
- Voter Registration
- Building Inspector
- Bulky Waste Disposal
- Construction Permits
- Engineering
- Environmental Commission
- Bureau Fire Prevention
- Grounds
- Inspections
- Pill Hill Recycling Center
- Planner
- Planning Board
- Public Works
- Roads
- Sewerage Authority
- Smoke Detector Test Scheduling
- Zoning Board
- Zoning Officer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>HEALTH DEPARTMENT</strong></th>
<th><strong>POLICE BUILDING</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>262 S. Finley Avenue</td>
<td>1 Collyer Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 908-204-3070</td>
<td>911 Information</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Animal Warden
- Board of Health
- Dog & Cat Licenses
- Environmental or Health Complaints
- Environmental or Health Inspections
- Local Assistance Board
- Marriage Licenses
- Registrar of Vital Statistics
- Septic
- Welfare
- Well Water
- Accident Reports
- Detective Bureau
- Emergency Management
- Handicap Parking Placards
- Records
- Security Alarm Permits
- Traffic Control
- Weapon Permits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>BERNARDS TOWNSHIP LIBRARY</strong></th>
<th><strong>COMMUNITY SERVICE</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32 S. Maple Avenue</td>
<td>31 Stonehouse Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone 908-204-3031</td>
<td>Phone 908-766-9748</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bernards Township Meeting Date Schedule
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Meeting Schedule</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Advisory</td>
<td>Meets 3rd Thursday after 1st Monday, Quarterly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Adjustment:</td>
<td>Meets 1st Wednesday after first Monday of Month; special meetings 2nd Thursday after the 1st Monday in January through June and September through November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Health:</td>
<td>Meets 2nd Thursday after 1st Monday of Month (no meetings in July, August, and November)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Day Committee</td>
<td>3rd Monday of Month January, February, March, then bi-weekly April through Charter Day (Daytime meetings)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer Management</td>
<td>Meets 1st Thursday after 1st Monday, Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Commission:</td>
<td>Meets 2nd Monday of Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Advisory Board</td>
<td>Meets 3rd Monday in March, May, July, September &amp; October (call to confirm dates)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEPC &amp; Flood Mitigation</td>
<td>Meets 3rd Wednesday after 1st Monday in January, May and September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Board:</td>
<td>Meets 4th Wednesday after 1st Monday of month (no meetings in July and August)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Court:</td>
<td>Meets Thursdays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Alliance/Youth Service</td>
<td>Meets 1st Tuesday after 1st Monday, Monthly except July &amp; Aug. (6-7:30 PM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks, Pathways &amp; Recreation</td>
<td>Meets 1st Monday, Monthly (except when a Holiday then on 2nd Monday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Subcommittee</td>
<td>Call of the Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Board</td>
<td>Meets 1st &amp; 3rd Tuesdays after 1st Monday, Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pool Commission</td>
<td>Meets 4th Monday, Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Subcommittee</td>
<td>4th Tuesday after 1st Monday, Monthly (Prior to TC Meetings)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewerage Authority</td>
<td>Meets 2nd Tuesday after 1st Monday (prior to TC Meetings) 6:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shade Tree Commission:</td>
<td>Meets 2nd Wednesday after 1st Monday, Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Township Committee</td>
<td>Meets 2nd &amp; 4th Tuesdays after 1st Monday, Monthly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**N. J. Representatives**

**U.S. Senators**
Cory Booker  
www.booker.senate.gov  
Washington D.C.  
141 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Phone: (202) 224-3224  
Newark, New Jersey  
Gateway One  
11-43 Raymond Plaza West, Suite 2300  
Newark, NJ 07102  
Phone: (973) 639-8700  
Camden  
One Port Center  
2 Riverside Drive  
Suite 505  
Camden, NJ 08101

Robert Menendez  
www.menendez.senate.gov  
Washington D.C.  
528 Senate Hart Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
Phone: (202) 224-4744  
Newark, New Jersey  
Gateway One  
11-43 Raymond Plaza West, Suite 1100  
Newark, NJ 07102  
(973) 645-3030  
(973) 645-0502 (fax)  
Barrington, New Jersey  
208 White Horse Pike, Suite 18  
Barrington New Jersey, 08007  
(856) 757-5353; (856) 546-1526 (fax)

Congressman - District 7  
Congressman Tom Malinowski  
http://malinowski.house.gov/

Washington DC Office  
426 Cannon HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
Phone: (202) 225-5361  
Fax: (202) 225-5361

New Jersey 21st Legislative District  
Senator Thomas H. Kean Jr.  
Senator Thomas H. Kean Jr.  
425 North Ave. East, Suite C  
Westfield, NJ 07090  
(908) 232-3673

Assemblyman Jon M. Bramnick  
251 North Ave. West, 2nd Floor  
Westfield, NJ 07090  
(908) 232-2073

Assemblywoman Nancy F. Munoz  
57 Union Pl., Suite 310  
Summit, NJ 07901  
(908) 918-0414

Somerset County Freeholders  
20 Grove Street  
Somerville, NJ 08876  
www.co.somerset.nj.us  
Brian D. Levine, Director  
Patricia Walsh, Deputy Director  
Brian Gallagher  
Shanel Robinson  
Sara Sooy
# Community Services & Highlights

## Somerset County

**Somerset County’s Free E-Newsletter**  
[www.co.somerset.nj.us/newsletter](http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/newsletter)

**Email Updates on more than 90 items on the County Website**  
[www.co.somerset.nj.us/subscribe.html](http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/subscribe.html)

**Resource Somerset**  
[www.LeadershipSomerset.org](http://www.LeadershipSomerset.org)

**Somerset County Environmental Center**  
[www.somersetcountyparks.org/parksfacilities/eec/ecd.html](http://www.somersetcountyparks.org/parksfacilities/eec/ecd.html)

**Somerset County Park Headquarters**  
[www.somersetcountyparks.org/geninfo/information.html](http://www.somersetcountyparks.org/geninfo/information.html)

**Somerset County Riding Stables**  

## Public Safety

**Basking Ridge Fire Company and First Aid Squad**  
[www.brfco.com](http://www.brfco.com)  
908-766-9874  
30 Washington Avenue  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

**Bernards Township Bureau of Fire Prevention**  
[Fire Prevention Bureau](http://www.brfco.com)  
908-204-2511  
277 S. Maple Avenue  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

**Bernards Township Police**  
[BT Police](http://www.brfco.com)  
908-766-1122  
1 Collyer Lane  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

**Liberty Corner Fire Company**  
[www.libertycornerfire.org](http://www.libertycornerfire.org)  
908-647-3530  
95 Church Street, POB 98  
Liberty Corner, NJ  07938

**Liberty Corner First Aid**  
[www.lcfas.org](http://www.lcfas.org)  
908-647-1145  
Martinsville Rd., POB 57  
Liberty Corner, NJ  07938

## Hospitals

**Morristown Hospital**  
[www.atlantichealth.org/morristown/](http://www.atlantichealth.org/morristown/)  
973-971-5000  
100 Madison Avenue  
Morristown, NJ  07960

**Overlook Hospital**  
[www.atlantichealth.org/overlook/](http://www.atlantichealth.org/overlook/)  
908-522-2000  
Beauvoir Avenue  
Summit, NJ

**Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset**  
[http://www.rwjuh.edu/rwjuh/home.aspx](http://www.rwjuh.edu/rwjuh/home.aspx)  
908-685-2200  
110 Rehill Avenue  
Somerville, NJ  08876

**Veterans’ Affairs Medical Center**  
[www.newjersey.va.gov/](http://www.newjersey.va.gov/)  
908-647-0180  
Lyons, NJ  07939
Post Offices [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post Office</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge Post Office</td>
<td>908-766-0611</td>
<td>21 Brownlee Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Corner Post Office</td>
<td>908-647-0841</td>
<td>8 Church Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Liberty Corner, NJ 07938</td>
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Utilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Website/Contact Information</th>
<th>Provider</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cable/Internet</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cablevision.com">www.cablevision.com</a> 732-356-1300 or 908-766-5008</td>
<td>Cablevision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric</td>
<td><a href="http://www.firstenergycorp.com">www.firstenergycorp.com</a> 800-545-7741</td>
<td>JCP&amp;L (First Energy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garbage</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kohlerwasteservices.com">www.kohlerwasteservices.com</a> 908-903-9031</td>
<td>K.W.S. (Kohler Waste Services)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.republicservices.com">www.republicservices.com</a> 800-273-7539</td>
<td>Republic Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.raritandisposal.com">www.raritandisposal.com</a> 1-800-342-5783</td>
<td>Raritan Valley Disposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pseg.com">www.pseg.com</a> 1-800-436-7734</td>
<td>Public Service Electric/Gas Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling</td>
<td><a href="http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/recycle">www.co.somerset.nj.us/recycle</a> 732-469-3363</td>
<td>Somerset County Recycling Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewer</td>
<td>Sewerage Authority 908-204-3020 (Administrative) 908-647-2460 (Plant) 908-204-3078 (Payment)</td>
<td>Bernards Twp. Sewerage Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cablevision.com">www.cablevision.com</a> 732-356-1300 or 908-766-5008</td>
<td>Cablevision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.verizon.net">www.verizon.net</a> 1-800-837-4966</td>
<td>Verizon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td><a href="http://www.amwater.com">www.amwater.com</a> 1-800-652-6987</td>
<td>New Jersey-American Water Company</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Schools

#### Public Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Hill</td>
<td><a href="http://cedarhill.bernards.boe.com">http://cedarhill.bernards.boe.com</a></td>
<td>100 Peachtree Road, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>908-204-2639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Corner</td>
<td><a href="http://libertycorner.bernards.boe.com">http://libertycorner.bernards.boe.com</a></td>
<td>61 Church Street, Liberty Corner, NJ 07938</td>
<td>908-204-2550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Prospect Elementary</td>
<td><a href="http://mountprospect.bernards.boe.com">http://mountprospect.bernards.boe.com</a></td>
<td>111 Hansom Road, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>908-470-1600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak Street</td>
<td><a href="http://oakstreet.bernards.boe.com">http://oakstreet.bernards.boe.com</a></td>
<td>70 W. Oak Street, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>908-204-2565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Annin</td>
<td><a href="http://williamannin.bernards.boe.com">http://williamannin.bernards.boe.com</a></td>
<td>70 Quincy Road, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>908-204-2610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridge High School</td>
<td><a href="http://ridghigh.bernards.boe.com">http://ridghigh.bernards.boe.com</a></td>
<td>285 S. Finley Avenue, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>908-204-2585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset County Vocational &amp;</td>
<td><a href="http://www.scvths.org">www.scvths.org</a></td>
<td>14 Vogt Dr., P.O.B. 6350, Bridgewater, NJ 08807</td>
<td>908-526-8900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Schools</td>
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#### Private Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albrook Montessori School</td>
<td><a href="http://www.albrookschool.org">www.albrookschool.org</a></td>
<td>361-A Somerville Road, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>908-580-0661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnie Brae</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bonnie-brae.org">www.bonnie-brae.org</a></td>
<td>Valley Road, P.O.B. 369, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>908-647-0800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lord Stirling</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lordstirling.org">www.lordstirling.org</a></td>
<td>Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>908-766-1786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pingry School</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pingry.org">www.pingry.org</a></td>
<td>Martinsville Road, P.O.B. 366, Martinsville, NJ 08836</td>
<td>908-647-5555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. James Parochial School</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sjsbr.org">www.sjsbr.org</a></td>
<td>200 S. Finley Avenue, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>908-766-4774</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pre-Schools

Albrook Montessori School
Ages 2-12
www.albrookschool.org
908-580-0661
361-A Somerville Road
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Chabad Jewish Center
Preschool
www.chabadcentral.org
908-604-8844
3048 Valley Road
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Children's Corner
www.lcpc.org
908-647-8401
45 Church Street
Liberty Corner, NJ 07938

Gentle Shephard
Christian Pre-School
www.shlc.net/gentle-shepherd-christian-preschool
908-766-1430
350 Lake Road
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Little Footprints Learning Center
www.littlefootprintsnj.com
908-647-0011
520 King George Road
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Somerset Hills Montessori
www.somersethillsmontessori.org
908-221-0797
173 Madisonville Road
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Sunshine Preschool & Infant Care
www.sunshinepreschool.net
info@sunshinepreschool.net
908-604-2707
3575 Valley Road
Liberty Corner, NJ 07938

The Tree House Child Caring Center
www.thetreeshouseinc.org
908-221-1619
1 E. Oak Street
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

The Weintal Preschool
www.weintalpreschool.org
cbitous@optonline.net
908-204-1294
40 Whitenack Rd.
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Colleges

Philadelphia College of Bible
908-604-2707
3575 Valley Road
Liberty Corner, NJ 07938

Raritan Valley Community College
www.raritanval.edu
908-526-1200
Rte. 28 & Lamington Rd.
North Branch, NJ 08876
## Houses of Worship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House of Worship</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Millington Baptist Church</td>
<td><a href="http://www.millingtonbaptist.org">www.millingtonbaptist.org</a></td>
<td>520 King George Road</td>
<td>908-647-0394</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chabad Jewish Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.chabadcentral.org">www.chabadcentral.org</a></td>
<td>3048 Valley Road</td>
<td>908-604-8844</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congregation B'nai Israel</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cbibr.org">www.cbibr.org</a></td>
<td>40 Whitenack Road</td>
<td>908-204-1412</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covenant Chapel (Reformed Episcopal)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.covenantchapel.org">www.covenantchapel.org</a></td>
<td>127 W. Oak Street</td>
<td>908-766-6174</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelical Fellowship Chapel</td>
<td></td>
<td>3575 Valley Road</td>
<td>908-647-1979</td>
<td>Liberty Corner, NJ 07938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowship Deaconry</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fellowshipdeaconry.org">http://www.fellowshipdeaconry.org</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presbyterian Church of Liberty Corner</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lcpc.org">www.lcpc.org</a></td>
<td>45 Church Street, P.O. Box 55</td>
<td>908-647-0340</td>
<td>Liberty Corner, NJ 07938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills Baptist Church</td>
<td><a href="http://www.somersethillsbaptist.org">www.somersethillsbaptist.org</a></td>
<td>510 Mount Airy Road</td>
<td>908-647-7090</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills Lutheran Church</td>
<td><a href="http://www.shlc.net">www.shlc.net</a></td>
<td>350 Lake Road</td>
<td>908-766-2858</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. James Catholic Church</td>
<td><a href="http://www.saintjamesbr.org">www.saintjamesbr.org</a></td>
<td>184 S. Finley Avenue</td>
<td>908-766-0888</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mark's Episcopal Church</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stmarksbr.org">www.stmarksbr.org</a></td>
<td>140 S. Finley Avenue</td>
<td>908-766-0510</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Presbyterian Church of Basking Ridge</td>
<td><a href="http://www.brpc.org">www.brpc.org</a></td>
<td>1 E. Oak Street</td>
<td>908-766-1616</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Organizations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Association of University Women (AAUW)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.aauwnj.org">www.aauwnj.org</a></td>
<td>908-696-0375</td>
<td>POB 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Legion Post 216</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>151 Route 206 S. Gladstone, NJ 07934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge Business Alliance</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ridgebusiness.org">www.ridgebusiness.org</a></td>
<td>(908) 766-9300</td>
<td>5 Lyons Mall #325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bernards Municipal Alliance</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bernardsalliance.org">www.bernardsalliance.org</a></td>
<td>908-204-2523</td>
<td>262 S. Finley Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Brothers / Big Sisters of Hunterdon &amp; Somerset Counties</td>
<td></td>
<td>908-730-7773</td>
<td>79 Beaver Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Clinton, NJ 08809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonafides of Somerset Hills</td>
<td><a href="http://www.thebonafides.org">www.thebonafides.org</a></td>
<td>908-647-3741</td>
<td>POB 91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy Scout Troop 54</td>
<td></td>
<td>908-391-2113</td>
<td>65 Ramapo Dr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy Scout Troop 555</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>350 Lake Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bernards Township Regional Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bernardstownregionalchamber.org">www.bernardstownregionalchamber.org</a></td>
<td>908-766-6755</td>
<td>P.O. Box 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chamber of Commerce (County)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.scbp.org">www.scbp.org</a></td>
<td>908-725-1522</td>
<td><a href="http://www.somercountychamber.org">www.somercountychamber.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cub Scout Pack 451</td>
<td></td>
<td>908-391-2113</td>
<td>65 Ramapo Dr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cub Pack 54</td>
<td></td>
<td>908-604-2467</td>
<td>89 Harrison Brook Dr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Website</td>
<td>Address</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmstead Arts</td>
<td><a href="mailto:farmsteadartscenter@gmail.com">farmsteadartscenter@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>450 King George Rd. PO Box 155 Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girl Scouts of Rolling Hills</td>
<td><a href="http://www.girlscouts-rh.org">www.girlscouts-rh.org</a></td>
<td>Attn: Membership 1171 Rte. 28 North Branch, NJ 08876</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Swamp Watershed Association</td>
<td><a href="http://www.greatswamp.org/">http://www.greatswamp.org/</a></td>
<td>PO Box 300 New Vernon, NJ 07976</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Woman's Club of Somerset Hills</td>
<td><a href="http://gfwc.homestead.com">http://gfwc.homestead.com</a></td>
<td>Junior Women's Club POB 52 Bernardsville, NJ 07924</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiwanis Club of Somerset Hills</td>
<td>908-735-2683 John Greene</td>
<td>POB 246 Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knights of Columbus</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kofc.org">www.kofc.org</a> 908-766-6163</td>
<td>14 Brook Avenue Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lions Club of Bernards</td>
<td></td>
<td>POB 352 Bernardsville, NJ 02924</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Neighbors</td>
<td>908-647-3610 Linda Arnold</td>
<td>POB 281 Liberty Corner, NJ 07938</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newcomers &amp; Neighbors of Somerset Hills</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nnsphpresident@gmail.com">nnsphpresident@gmail.com</a>. <a href="http://www.nnshclub.org">www.nnshclub.org</a></td>
<td>POB 161 Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource of Somerset County (Domestic Violence Services)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.resourcecenterofsomerset.org">www.resourcecenterofsomerset.org</a>.</td>
<td>427 Homestead Rd, Hillsborough, NJ 08844-1400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raritan Headwaters Association</td>
<td><a href="http://www.raritanheadwaters.org/">www.raritanheadwaters.org/</a></td>
<td>2121 Larger Cross Rd. Bedminster, NJ 07921</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rotary Club of Bernards</td>
<td>908-295-7235</td>
<td>3020 Valley Rd. Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Arts &amp; Talents Of Somerset County</td>
<td>908-647-3295</td>
<td>202 Mt. Airy Road Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Wellness Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/senior.html">www.co.somerset.nj.us/senior.html</a></td>
<td>310 Milltown Road</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset County 4-H</td>
<td><a href="http://somerset.rce.rutgers.edu/4h/">http://somerset.rce.rutgers.edu/4h/</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Woman's Club</td>
<td><a href="http://gfwc.homestead.com">http://gfwc.homestead.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>Website</td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills Elks Lodge 1983</td>
<td>145 Rte. 206 S. Gladstone, NJ 07934</td>
<td>908-234-1828</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills Kennel Club</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.somersethillskc.org">www.somersethillskc.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills YMCA</td>
<td>140 Mount Airy Road, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>908-766-7898</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset/Hunterdon Chapter of Make-a-Wish Foundation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.wish.org">www.wish.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Historical Society of Somerset Hills</td>
<td>POB 136, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>908-221-1770</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trilogy Repertory</td>
<td>POB 199, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.trilogyrepertory.com">www.trilogyrepertory.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Golf Association</td>
<td>77 Liberty Corner Road, Far Hills, NJ 07931</td>
<td>908-234-2300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Raritan Watershed Association</td>
<td>Box 273, 2121 Larger Cross Rd. Gladstone, NJ 07934</td>
<td>908-234-1852</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting Nurse Association of Somerset Hills</td>
<td>200 Mt. Airy Road, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>908-766-0180</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills Hospice</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:mail@visitingnurse.org">mail@visitingnurse.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Club of Bernardsville</td>
<td>25 Fairview Dr. E. Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>908-766-3289</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting Nurse Association of Somerset Hills</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.visitingnurse.org">www.visitingnurse.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills Hospice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>200 Mt. Airy Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Club of Bernardsville</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25 Fairview Dr. E.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Specialized Housing

Bernards Township
Affordable Housing
(Jersey Central Housing Resource Center)

Bethel Ridge Group Home

Fellowship Village Continuing Care Retirement Community

Ridge Oak Senior Housing

Matheny Community Residence

Transportation

Lakeland Bus Line

New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles

New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicle Services
(Local Office – Somerville)

New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles
(Inspection Station)

General Information
(Administrative Offices)

New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicle Services
(Off Rt. 28)

New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles
(Flemington VIS)

New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles
(Plainfield VIS)

New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles
(Randolph VIS)
New Jersey Transit Train  
[www.njtransit.com](http://www.njtransit.com)  
973-275-5555

Newark Airport  
973-961-6000  
Newark, NJ

RideWise  
908-704-1011  
Somerset County  
20 Grove St.  
Somerville, NJ 08876

Taxi / Limo Services  
908-696-9616  
Cedars Car Service, Inc.  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

908-766-6402  
Bernardsville Coach and Livery  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

**Recreation Programs**

**Babe Ruth Baseball**  
[www.baberuthleague.org](http://www.baberuthleague.org)  
908-604-2220  
For boys and girls ages 13-15  
Registration in February

**Basking Ridge Little League**  
[www.ridgebaseballclub.com](http://www.ridgebaseballclub.com)  
Youth baseball for boys & girls 6-12  
Registration in November

**Bernards Township Recreation**  
[www.berniards.org](http://www.berniards.org)  
1 Collyer Lane  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
A variety of programs and activities for all ages including basketball, girls softball, ant hockey, drama classes, tennis, summer camp, fitness, computer programs, karate, music, volleyball, golf, trips, senior citizen and therapeutic recreation services, and much more. Call for more details.

**Fishing & Hunting Licenses**  
908-359-1000  
908-561-4400  
908-575-8997  
908-756-1925  
Kmart, Hillsborough  
Ray's Sport Shop  
N. Plainfield  
Wal-Mart, Manville  
Wal-Mart, Watchung

**Jr. Red Devils Football Club**  
[www.jrreddevilsflagfootball.com](http://www.jrreddevilsflagfootball.com)  
Girls & Boys, Ages 3-8  
7 on 7 Non-contact  
Practice begins September

**Mavericks Soccer Club**  
[www.ridgemavericks.com](http://www.ridgemavericks.com)  
Youth – Registration in spring

**Wrestling**  
[www.ridgeyouthwrestling.com](http://www.ridgeyouthwrestling.com)  
Instructional club for grades K-8. Registration in October

**Ridge Ice Hockey Association Jr. Devils**  
[www.ridgehockey.net](http://www.ridgehockey.net)  
Grades 6-8
Ridge Youth Sports, Inc.  
Football /Cheerleading and Boys Lacrosse  
www.ridgeyouthsports.com  
Grades K-8  
Grades 2-8

Somerset Hills Bulldogs  
Football & Cheerleading  
www.somersetbhillsbulldogs.com  
Youth football boys and girls ages 5-14 & Cheerleading – Registration in spring

Somerset Hills Lacrosse Club  
www.somersetlahillslacrosse.com  
Grades 4-8 – Registration in November

Somerset Hills Soccer Club  
www.shsc.net  
Youth soccer for boys and girls  
Intramural: grades K-8  
Travel: U8-U14

Somerset Hills YMCA 908-766-7898  
140 Mount Airy Road  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
www.somersethillsymca.org  
Extensive leisure programs.  
Competitive programs in swimming, gymnastics.

Parks and Recreation Facilities

For a Complete Listing of Township Parks and Recreation Facilities visit
www.bernards.org

Allen Street Gazebo  
Intersection of Allen Street & North Finley Avenue  
Place to relax and enjoy a brown bag lunch

Astor Fields 908-204-3003  
1 Collyer Lane (behind municipal building)  
3 multipurpose fields

Basking Ridge Country Club 908-766-9200  
185 Madisonville Road  
Private 18 hole golf course and swimming pool – Members only

Ridge Baseball Complex  
Valley Road  
4 Little League baseball fields & area flooded for ice skating in winter

Bernards Township Community Center 908-204-3003  
289 South Maple Avenue  
Activity room holds up to 35 people. Recreation room holds up to 50 people.

Coakley-Russo Memorial Golf Course (V.A.) 908-204-3003  
Valley Road  
9-Hole Course – Memberships available.

Dead River Trail  
West of Acken Road, north of power lines  
Wooded area with a rustic trail for walking use only

16
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Amenities and Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dunham Park</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>Picnic shelter, indoor pavilion, roller hockey rink, softball/baseball field, sand volleyball court, disc golf course, bocce court, barrier-free playground, bike/jogging path, nature trail, multipurpose field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Family Woods</td>
<td></td>
<td>Passive recreation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmstead Park</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>Multipurpose field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lord Stirling Park Riding Stables</td>
<td>908-766-5955</td>
<td>Full program of public riding instruction in English horsemanship for youth and adults. Seasonally the stables offer reserved hay rides, sleigh rides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manchester Drive Athletic Field, Manchester Dr.</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>Multipurpose field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCollum Farm</td>
<td></td>
<td>Passive recreation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Park</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>4 Multipurpose fields (2 lighted) 1.25 mile paved bike/jogging path; 4 LL/softball fields (2 lighted)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Valley Park</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>Multipurpose fields, softball &amp; baseball fields, tennis courts, picnic shelter, warming hut, stocked pond (no fishing permit required), pond shelter, walking trail, amphitheater, platform tennis courts, basketball court, sand volleyball court, barrier-free playground, fitness cluster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Valley Pool</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>50 Meter “Z” shaped pool w/diving tank, training pool with slide, wading pool, water &amp; play area, concession stand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebel Hill Park</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>Neighborhood park with soccer/softball field, tennis courts, barrier free playground, picnic tables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schmidt Park</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>Passive recreation – hiking trails, fishing with permit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Somerset County
Environmental Education Ctr
190 Lord Stirling Road
908-766-2489
Nature walks, environmental programs and exhibits, classes

Sons of Liberty Farm
Allen Road
Passive recreation, hiking trails, fishing (no permit required)

Southard Park
North Maple Avenue
908-204-3003
Picnic shelter, soccer/softball field, basketball court, stocked pond for fishing (no permit required), sand volleyball court, barrier-free playground and bocce court, ice skating in winter, shuffle board court

War Memorial Field
South Maple Avenue
Paws Park Dog Run (dogs must be licensed), multipurpose field, baseball & softball fields

Washington Ave. Athletic Field
Washington Avenue
Soccer/Softball field

Whitenack Woods
Passive recreation

Libraries
Bernards Township Library
32 S. Maple Avenue
908-204-3031
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Somerset County Library
www.somerset.lib.nj.us
908-526-4016
N. Bridge St. & Vogt Dr.
Bridgewater, NJ 07920

Historic Sites Listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>State Register Dates</th>
<th>National Register Dates</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alward Farm House (Chimney Ash Farm)</td>
<td>Entered in State Register February 5, 1986 (ID #2468)</td>
<td>Entered in National Register March 13, 1986 (NR Reference #86000388)</td>
<td>Colonial era farmhouse represents the simple and primitive lifestyle of early settlers. Built c.1740, it is one of the first structures in Bernards Township.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>Entered in State Register October 24, 1974 (ID #2470)</td>
<td>Entered in National Register</td>
<td>Greek Revival style church built in 1839. A stately white oak tree over 600 years old stands in the churchyard where...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Date Entered</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **www.brpc.org**  
908-766-1616 | December 31, 1974  
(NR Reference #74001190) | Revolutionary War veterans are buried. Sanctuary, church yard and tree on State and National Registers. |
| **Boudinot-Southard Farmstead**  
135 North Maple Ave  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920 | Entered in State Register  
September 11, 2009  
(ID #4955)  
Entered in National Register  
December 18, 2009  
(NR Reference # 09001101) | Built in 1804, the house is an example of a New Jersey frame farmhouse which later served as a crossroads tavern, meeting place and stage coach route. |
| **Coffee House**  
(Turner Homestead)  
214 N. Maple Avenue  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920 | Entered in State Register  
March 28, 1977  
(ID #2471)  
Entered in National Register  
November 7, 1977  
(NR Reference #77000906) | Built between 1750 and 1840, the Farmstead and three historic agricultural structures are part of Old Farmstead Park, a 36.5 acre property along the Passaic River. The Farmstead’s buildings are early examples of English and modified Dutch framing. The Farmstead is site of a classical school founded by the Rev. Samuel Kennedy; later relocated several times and finally housed in the Brick Academy. The 1740 home was also residence of founding father of State of NJ, Col. Ephraim Martin. Later home of prominent Stelle landowners. Property in agricultural use for more than 250 years. Other buildings include large English barn and wagon barn. |
| **Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead**  
King George Road  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920 | Entered in State Register  
June 9, 2003  
(ID #4200)  
Entered in National Register  
May 5, 2004  
(NR Reference #03000868)  
COE: May 14, 2001 | Two brick buildings are all that remain of the Lord Stirling/William Alexander estate. Research has established these were auxiliary buildings related to farm life (granary, farm office, perhaps used by domestic servants). Archeological digs are ongoing on site which is owned by the Somerset County Park Commission. |
| **Lord Stirling Manor Site**  
96 Lord Stirling Road  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
908-766-2489 | Entered in State Register  
December 1, 1976  
(ID #2475)  
Entered in National Register  
May 22, 1978  
(NR Reference #78001795) | Originally built to house the Basking Ridge Classical School in 1809. This is the oldest existing Federal style building in Bernards Township; it was Public School District #12 from 1852-1903; it then was a union hall and served as the municipal |
Historic Districts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District Name</th>
<th>Entered in State Register</th>
<th>Entered in National Register</th>
<th>Consists of</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Corners</td>
<td>December 12, 1974 (ID #2472)</td>
<td>May 12, 1975 (NR Reference #75001159)</td>
<td>50 acres including 13 structures, and its focal point, the Van Dorn Mill, c.1843, one of the finest examples of stonework in N.J. First residents were farmers and millers, settled in mid-1700s. Present mill replaced original one of 1768 which supplied Washington's troops with grain. Operational until World War II.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Corner Historic District</td>
<td>August 16, 1991 (ID #2473)</td>
<td>October 11, 1991 (NR Reference #91001477)</td>
<td>142 acres; 84 contributing 7 non-contributing buildings, 1 stone bridge and liberty pole site, centerpiece is Liberty Corner Presbyterian Church, built 1868-69, an Italianate structure.</td>
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| Lyons Veterans Administration Hospital Historic District | April 29, 2013 (ID #2476) | July 3, 2013 (NR Reference #13000461) | A Brief History of Bernards Township

Bernards Township is where the following events occurred:

- The Rev. George Whitefield, English evangelist, preached to 3,000 people under the white oak tree of the Presbyterian Church, during the Great Awakening of 1740.
- Lord Stirling (William Alexander) built his palatial estate, Stirling Manor, here. Local people called it The Buildings, because of its size; the road was called Building Lane.
- Washington and Lafayette picnicked and colonial troops rested under the old oak tree in Basking Ridge Presbyterian Churchyard.
- Young men attended a small private academy, entered the College of New Jersey and became prominent in State and National history.
- Uniforms were sewn for the Northern soldiers during the Civil War and four years after the war, the Chief Surgeon of the Union Army built a home two blocks away. Also, axles for the mess wagons onto the battlefields were made in a hub and spoke factory here.
- Liberty Corner was a popular summer resort, with vacationers staying at local homesteads and dairy farms. A carriage would meet guests at the Lyons depot.
- Governor Woodrow Wilson made a speech on the village green in Basking Ridge prior to World War II.
Colonel John Jacob Astor IV donated stones to build the Methodist Church, 14 years before he perished in the sinking of the Titanic in 1912. 
Samuel Owen of Newark, a pharmaceutical magnate, built his English Tudor mansion in 1912, now Town Hall.

The Lenni-Lenape Indians, a branch of the Delaware (part of the Algonquin Nation) were the first known inhabitants of the Bernards Township area. Scattered throughout are traces of these people: arrowheads, tomahawks, hearthstones, hammerheads and camp rubble, which indicate long occupation. One of the most widely used Indian areas was near Madisonville Road—a major campsite was the present AT&T location on North Maple Avenue. A burial ground is known to have existed on the east side of Childs Road on the hillside across from the Indian Graves Brook.

The area was purchased by John Harrison, agent of King James II of England in 1717, from Chief Nowenoik of the Lenapes, a real estate package of 3,000 acres for $50. The remainder of the Township’s land was bought later that year by William Penn. Early settlers were Scotch, Irish and English. Harrison’s Purchase or Harrison’s Neck was the property’s designation. In 1733 the name Basking Ridge first appeared in ecclesiastic records of the Presbyterian Church and is recorded as being derived from the fact that “the wild animals of the adjacent lowlands were accustomed to bask in the warm sun of this beautiful ridge.” Baskeridge and Baskenridge were commonly used.

By 1740 a list of settlers included names as Alward, Annin, Conkling, Cross, Dayton, and Lewis. At the time of the American Revolution, as many as 100 men from Bernards answered the call to arms. Revolutionary troops came from Bound Brook through Annin’s Corner and Basking Ridge en route to Morristown. During this time, a liberty pole was placed on the village green, with Annin’s Corner renamed Liberty Corner. Basking Ridge was thought to be a secure place from the British Army as it was only seven miles away from the center of Washington’s army at Jockey Hollow. General Charles Lee, second in command, was captured by British forces at the Widow White’s Tavern in December, 1776. (This is at the corner of Colonial Drive and South Finley Avenue.) A local street, Old Army Road, was so named because it was the path trod through the country from Jockey Hollow to the Vealtown Tavern in Bernardsville by American troops.

In 1750 a classical school, designed to prepare young men for college, was established in Basking Ridge by Dr. Samuel Kennedy, fourth pastor of the Presbyterian Church, and later run by his successor, Dr. Robert Finley. The school, known as the Basking Ridge Classical School for almost 50 years, was conducted in the ministers’ homes. Through contributions and partly at Dr. Finley’s expense, the Brick Academy was built in 1809. Pupils came from many other states, as well as New Jersey; residents provided lodgings. The Academy was know as having contributed more men “to the bench, the bar and the pulpit”. Students entered their junior year at the College of New Jersey (Princeton University). Among the Academy students were Samuel Southard, governor of New Jersey, U.S. Senate president and acting vice-president under President Tyler; William Lewis Dayton, vice-presidential candidate with John C. Fremont in 1856, and President Lincoln’s Minister to France.
during the Civil War; Robert Field Stockton, hero of the Mexican War; Theodore Frelinghuysen, U.S. Senator, vice-presidential candidate with Henry Clay in 1844 and president of Rutgers College.

There are twelve Houses of Worship of nine denominations. The Township has two historic districts: Franklin Corners and Liberty Corner. There are eight listings on the State and National Registers: The Brick Academy, Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church, Van Dorn Mill, Coffee House Corners (Turner Homestead), Chimney Ash Farm (Alward Homestead), Lord Stirling Estate out-buildings, and the two historic districts.

Two transportation-related events changed Bernards Township. In 1872 the railroad completed, opening the area to those who wished to live in the country and work in the metropolitan environment. Almost 100 years later, construction of Route 287 and later Route 78, two Interstate Highways, made commuting much easier for those seeking to live in residential climate.

Liberty Corner, settled since 1722, still maintains its gentle rural atmosphere. However, large housing developments are under construction in that village. In the later part of the 19th Century it was famous for its summer resorts.

Bernards Township Town Hall
Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, New Jersey

High on the ridge encircled on three sides by public roads stands an English Tudor style mansion. Built in 1912, this Basking Ridge landmark was the home of four wealthy families--Owen, Lee, Bissell and Astor, before it was purchased by Bernards Township in 1968. Commonly called the Astor Mansion after its last owner, this is the Bernards Township seat of government. The original choice 100 acres have a commanding view of Collyer Lane, South Finley Avenue and South Maple Avenue. The entire tract extended to the northern boundary of Homestead Village and included what is now War Memorial Field, plus the properties of Cedar Hill School and Ridge High School.

This residence, built of brick laid in Flemish bond, was the dream of Samuel Owen of Newark, a pharmaceutical manufacturer and gentleman farmer. The manor house contained 20 rooms, had an attached servants’ quarters for the head outside man, an unfinished third floor storage and servants’ quarters, an attached three stall garage and a small building for garden equipment. There also were two auxiliary structures on the grounds--a gate or carriage house on South Finley Avenue and the estate manager’s cottage on South Maple Avenue.
The Owens named their new home, “Cedar Hill” and spent six months there and the remainder in Newark. Alice Burford Owen was related to Sir James Horlick, president of Horlick Malted Milk Products. To reflect his wife’s British ancestry, Mr. Owen attempted to reproduce an English country home with beautiful brick-walled formal gardens, a rambler rose-covered arbor and a rose garden. A handsome native stone wall surrounded the entire acreage.

Features of the house include a red tiled roof, French and pocket doors, mahogany and birdseye maple paneling, etched crystal and brass wall sconces, unique moldings, green and rare red marble fireplaces with large marble hearths. The Owen family crest appears on the fireplace wall in the crystal chandeliered dining room. Townspeople were invited to picnic in Owen’s woods; 35 acres were planted with 5,000 peach and 1,500 apple trees. Cedar Hill Farm provided summer jobs for local students and at harvest time, for residents.

Trustees of the Owen estate sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. George Ludlow Lee Sr. in 1940. Mr. Lee was owner/treasurer of the Red Devil Tool Company of Irvington, 1937-1950; he later became chairman of the board, renamed Red Devil, Inc., now at Union, N.J. Mr. Lee served on the Bernards Township Planning Board and was its vice-chairman in 1944. He and his wife, Dulcinea Harrison Smith Lee, continued operation of the flourishing fruit farm, where local markets and roadside stands were supplied with the produce.

In 1946, 28 acres were divided into two tracts: 11.3 acres Lee retained in its natural state; 17 acres including the house were sold to Eugene V.N. Bissell and Zita Gatlin Bissell. John Jacob Astor VI bought the smaller tract of 11.3 acres from Lee in 1947. In the mid-50s, Lee donated 60 acres of land to Bernards Township Board of Education to build Cedar Hill School and Ridge High School with their associated athletic fields. An additional 12 acres were sold to the Neill Card Post #114, American Legion, War Memorial Foundation, for its field on South Maple Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Bissell renamed the estate “Maple Way” and lived there from 1946-1950. Mr. Bissell was executive vice-president of the Continental Grain Company in New York City. They sold the property to John Jacob Astor VI in 1950. Mr. Astor acquired an additional 17 acres from the Bissells, adding to his original 11.3 from the Lees. He lived in the mansion infrequently, but employed a staff to run it. Vacated in 1960, it remained unoccupied for eight years before Bernards Township purchased the hilltop house and 28 acres for $140,000 in 1968. (Mr. Astor was the son born posthumously to Colonel John Jacob Astor IV, who perished in the sinking of the Titanic in 1912.)

An addition to the mansion (a new police wing in 1974) and further remodeling paved the way for the relocation of Bernards Township’s government, which had been housed in an 1809 Federal style school house on West Oak Street. In 1975 for the first time Township offices were in a centralized location.

This picturesque real estate is almost entirely surrounded by public and semi-public lands. To the rear is the Board of Education property; across Collyer Lane is the St. James Church and School; and on the opposite side of South Maple Avenue is
Lord Stirling Park, which includes the Somerset County Environmental Education Center and Riding Stables, covering almost 1,000 acres.