## Welcome to Hillsborough

## Somerset County, New Jersey

Welcome to Hillsborough, one of *Money Magazine's* Best Places to Live in America!

Hillsborough Township is part of Somerset County, located in the center of New Jersey. The township is situated 52 miles from Manhattan and 55 miles from downtown Philadelphia. Hillsborough's central location between the nation's largest and fifth largest metropolises has allowed the town to grow steadily into the large, diverse municipality it is today.



Originally created by a Royal Charter in 1771, Hillsborough was officially incorporated in 1798 by the New Jersey Legislature, becoming one of the original 104 townships in the state. Since its beginning, Hillsborough has played an important role in the country's history. Hillsborough's Sourland Mountain was, at one point, home to General George Washington and his troops as they trained to fight the British in the valley below. Hillsborough was also once home to the Belle Mead GSA Depot, an important military complex during World War II.

Today, Hillsborough continues to grow and improve upon its impressive history. The township boasts an excellent school system, as well as numerous parks, including the 1000 acre Duke Farms. Hillsborough is also a short drive to dozens of Revolutionary War sites, historic Princeton, and the world famous Jersey Shore.

On behalf of myself and the Township Committee, we welcome you to our township and hope you enjoy everything the area has to offer.

Sincerely,

Mayor, Hillsborough Township

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## **Township Government**

#### **Elected Officials:**

Mayor
Deputy Mayor
Committeeman Doug Tomson
Committeeman Shawn Lipani
Committeeman Frank DelCore
Committeewoman Janine Erickson
Committeewoman Olivia Holmes

The Hillsborough Township Committee consists of five elected members, including the Mayor, who is elected by the Township Committee to serve a one-year term. Township Committee members are elected on staggered three-year terms.

Township Committee meetings are held on: Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm Hillsborough Township Municipal Complex 379 South Branch Road Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Hillsborough Township Committee meetings are open to the public. They are also televised on Comcast TV Channel 29, Hillsborough's Hometown Channel. The meetings are uploaded to Hillsborough's YouTube Channel: Hillsborough Township NJ. Full Transcripts of the Township Committee meetings as well as meeting agendas are available on the township's website under the "Government" tab.

Make sure to keep up to date on what is happening in Hillsborough!

- Sign up for the township E-News
- Read Press Releases
- Sign up for Swift Alerts
- Follow Hillsborough Township on Twitter.
- Visit the Township's Social Media Page.



## **Township Departments**

#### <u>Administration</u>

The Administration/Clerk's Office is the front office of the Township Government. In addition to assisting the elected Hillsborough Township Committee, the Administration/Clerk's Office helps provide a myriad of services to the residents of Hillsborough Township. The Administration/Clerk's Office is in charge of the day to day operations of the township, as well as overseeing the needs of the other departments. The Administration/Clerk's Office provides the town with numerous services including organizing and running the Township Committee meetings, as well as providing essential township information to enquiring residents. The Administration/Clerk's Office is also responsible for licensing in the town, including alcohol, peddlers, raffles, and other licenses.

The Administration/Clerk's Office services include, but are not limited to:

- Alcohol Licenses
- Peddler's Licenses
- Raffle and Bingo Licenses
- Taxi and Limo Licenses
- Rental Property Licenses
- Massage Licenses
- Wrecker Licenses

- Deer Hunting Licenses
- Social Affair Permits
- Alarm Registrations\*
- OPRA Filings
- Full Records of Township Meetings
- Voter Registration

\*All home **alarm systems** in Hillsborough need to be registered with the township and police. You can <u>register</u> your alarm online or <u>print out a form</u> and return it to the administration office.

### **Building**

The Building Department is in charge of administration of the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code. The Building Department accepts applications and grants permits for construction projects around the township.

**Building Department Frequently Asked Questions** 

Township's Uniform Construction Code (UCC) Construction Fee Schedule

Hillsborough Township Permit Procurement Timeline

Building/Construction (and Township) Forms

#### **Business Advocate**

The mission of the Office of the Business Advocate is to encourage development by attracting, retaining, and assisting businesses to expand and grow in the Township. The Business Advocate is responsible for commercial industry relations, centralized gathering and dissemination of information and regulatory guidelines. This office acts as the catalyst for the Economic and Business Development Commission's mission.

#### Shop Hillsborough

The Shop Hillsborough Reward Program promotes local shopping while allowing card holders the opportunity to reduce their property tax bill. Anyone who lives or works in Hillsborough can get a "Shop Hillsborough" card. If you don't already have a card, stop by the Administration Office in the Municipal Building and pick one up.

Shoppers will earn property tax credits every time they show the Shop Hillsborough Property Tax Reward Card at the time of purchase at a participating merchant. The tax credits will be applied to the property tax bill or in the case of a renter, a rebate check will be issued. Individuals who work in Hillsborough, but are not property owners within the Township, can also secure a card to earn the rebate as well.

#### Hillsborough Affinity Card

Affinity Federal Credit Union and Hillsborough Township have teamed up to offer you a truly unique credit card. With the new Hillsborough Rewards Visa Credit Card, exclusive to township residents, you can give back to your community—while earning rewards at the same time. Every time you make a purchase you'll be supporting important youth and senior programs, and non-profit organizations.

## **Engineering**

The Engineering Department provides professional review, permitting, and inspection of public and private civil engineering projects ensuring consistency with the township codes, ordinances, and all applicable regulations and policies.

#### <u>Finance</u>

The Finance Department is responsible for collecting real estate property taxes, as well as helping to create the township's yearly budget, and assisting in the yearly township audit. Finance is also responsible for collecting payments for dog licensing.

### **Health**

The Health Department is in charge of efficiently managing the health of the township's residents and environment. The Health Department manages numerous programs that promote different health and environmental initiatives.

The Hillsborough Township Health Department's mission is to provide professional, competent, and financially efficient public health and environmental services to the residents of Hillsborough and Millstone.

To achieve this, the Hillsborough Township Health Department will promote healthy behaviors, prevent disease and injury, and protect the health of our residents as per the mandates of the "Public Health Practice Standards of Performance for Local Boards of Health in New Jersey". They will use disease control and prevention, health promotion and education, inspections and enforcement of health and environmental regulations, and interacting and planning with local partners in order to provide for the public health needs of the Hillsborough community.

The Hillsborough Health Department provides a number of important services to the residents of Hillsborough and Millstone. These include, but are not limited to, marriage licenses and animal related issues. Visit the Health Department's web page for a full list of the Health Department's services.

#### Pets and Wildlife

In Hillsborough Township and Millstone Borough all dogs must be licensed annually once they reach 7 months of age. All payments for dog licensing are handled by the Township Finance Department. For more information regarding why dogs must be licensed and how to do so, visit the Health Department's Dog Licensing Page.

Hillsborough is a largely undeveloped town with large expanses of fields and woods. This environment makes our town rich with wildlife and, as a result, interactions between wild animals and humans happen. If you see wildlife behaving unusually, contact the Hillsborough Police at (908) 369-4323 and St. Hubert's (animal control) at (908) 526-3330.

### Office of Emergency Management

The Hillsborough Township Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is a unit of local government that is responsible for providing for the health, safety, and welfare of the township citizens during times of emergencies and natural disasters. The OEM is also responsible for updating the current alerts and emergency road closure pages on the township website.

#### Police

The Hillsborough Police are dedicated to keeping the town safe and free of crime. The department patrols the town, guides traffic around road work, and works to further benefit the community through various programs, including Project Medicine Drop and the Hillsborough/Millstone Municipal Alliance. To contact the Hillsborough Police Department in a **NON-EMERGENCY MATTER**, call (908) 369-4323 or visit <a href="http://www.hillsboroughpolice.org/">http://www.hillsboroughpolice.org/</a>.

### Fire Safety

The mission of the Hillsborough Bureau of Fire Safety is to prevent and minimize the loss of life and property to the residents of Hillsborough through the delivery of the highest quality, effective and efficient code enforcement, public education and emergency fire response.

The Hillsborough Bureau of Fire Safety operates under and is funded through the Hillsborough Fire District. The Bureau of Fire Safety's employees are dedicated to providing the highest level of public service to the citizens and volunteer firefighters of Hillsborough Township.

### Parks and Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for most of the township's outdoor activities. This department manages the township's many parks as well as creates and runs various youth sport programs, summer camps, and outdoor events, such as the Memorial Day Parade.

#### **Parks**

Hillsborough Township prides itself on its large expanses of open space, both parks and protected land. The township's commitment to preserving land is one of the many factors behind it being named one of *Money* 

*Magazine's* Best Places to Live in America. In addition to the world famous 343 acre Duke's Estate, Hillsborough has 16 additional parks to visit and explore.

- Ann Van Middlesworth Park
- Country Classics Park
- Docherty Memorial Park
- Flagg Way Park
- Flagtown Annex
- Flagtown Park
- Mountain View Baseball Complex newly constructed for Summer 2017
- Municipal Playground

- Municipal Soccer Complex
- Otto's Farm Trails
- Singley Park
- Triangle Sports Complex
- Valley Road Baseball Field
- Village Green Park
- Willow Road Baseball Complex
- Woodfield Park

In addition to the township's beautiful parks, each of the township's schools have parks and playing fields on their property. To see pictures of the parks and get their addresses, visit the <u>Parks Directory website</u>.

#### Recreation

The Hillsborough Recreation Department runs leagues for kids in many different sports, including Basketball, Soccer, and Softball. The Recreation Department also runs different summer camps for children of all ages.

In Hillsborough, some of the sports are run through leagues separate from the Parks and Recreation Department. Baseball is run through the <u>Hillsborough Little League</u>. Football, Cheerleading, Track, Girl's Lacrosse, and Field Hockey are all run through the <u>Hillsborough Jr. Raiders</u>. The <u>Hillsborough Dukes Pop Warner</u> Program also runs a Football and Cheerleading League.

### Planning and Zoning

The Planning and Zoning Department is responsible for administering the Hillsborough Development Regulations Ordinance, Chapter 188 of the Township Code. This includes processing zoning permits, reviewing applications for development, and enforcing zoning decisions. The Planning and Zoning Department also oversees numerous different boards, commissions, and committees.

#### **Public Works**

The Department of Public Works is in charge of operating and maintaining the infrastructure of the township's more than 250 miles of roadway, as well as maintaining all township buildings, municipal grounds, and open space. Public Works also oversees the Annual Spring Clean Up and operates the township's reclamation/disposal center.

#### **Social Services**

The Social Services Department provides for a multitude of different programs within the township. These programs include, but are not limited to the Food Pantry, Senior Citizens Wellness Program, Mr. Fix-It Program, and others.

### Tax Assessor

The Tax Assessor Department is in charge of fairly distributing the tax burden and equitably for the property owners of Hillsborough Township. This department is also in charge of the Annual Reassessment Program.

## **Schools**

Hillsborough Township prides itself on its school district. Each school is highly rated academically and employs the best teachers available. The Hillsborough Township School District is comprised of a High School (9-12), Middle School (7-8), Intermediate School (5-6), and six elementary schools (K-4). In addition to Hillsborough residents, the school district also welcomes students from Millstone, our tiny neighbor, as part of a send/receive program.

Hillsborough High School and Hillsborough Middle School boast teams in a wide range of sports and an award winning marching band. Hillsborough's mascot is the Raiders. A complete list of athletic teams is available for the High School at <a href="https://hhs.htps.us/athletics">https://hhs.htps.us/athletics</a>, and for the Middle School at <a href="https://hms.htps.us/athletics">https://hms.htps.us/athletics</a>.



The Hillsborough Township School District offices are located in the Hillsborough Municipal Complex at 379 South Branch Road, Hillsborough, NJ. The district office's can be reached by phone, (908) 431-6600, or on its website, <a href="https://www.htps.us/">https://www.htps.us/</a>. To register new students in the district, visit the township's offices or go to <a href="https://www.htps.us/dist\_info/school\_registration">https://www.htps.us/dist\_info/school\_registration</a>.

Hillsborough High School
466 Raider Boulevard

Hillsborough Middle School 260 Triangle Road

Auten Road Intermediate School 281 Auten Road

Amsterdam Elementary School
301 Amsterdam Drive

Hillsborough Elementary School 435 Route 206 Sunnymead Elementary School
55 Sunnymead Road

Triangle Elementary School
156 South Triangle Road

Woodfern Elementary School 425 Woodfern Road

Woods Road Elementary School
401 South Woods Road

## **Commuters**

Due to Hillsborough's proximity to New York City and Philadelphia, there are many commuter options to get into each city. Hillsborough has a bus service operated by Coach USA that leaves from the Hillsborough Promenade. For a full listing of times and ticket information, please visit the Suburban Transit website at <a href="https://www.suburbantransit.com">www.suburbantransit.com</a> or call (732) 249-1100. Parking for the commuter bus is free, with 250 spots set aside, marked by green paint and "Park and Ride" signs.

In addition, there are a few local train stations that provide access to both cities through NJTransit. There are stations in Somerville and Raritan, which provide access to the Raritan Valley Line. There are also stations in New Brunswick and Princeton Junction that provide access to the Northeast Corridor. New Brunswick is an express train stop. Information for these stations is available on <a href="http://www.njtransit.com">http://www.njtransit.com</a>.

## Trash and Recycling

## Recycling

Recycling in Hillsborough is managed by the Somerset County Office of Recycling and Waste Management. Recycling is collected every other Tuesday in Hillsborough. Recycling must be placed in bins at the end of the driveway the night before in order to be picked up. The office also provides recycling for hazardous materials and electronics. For a full pick-up schedule and other helpful recycling guides, please visit the Office of Recycling's Website or read through the office's brochure.

### **Waste Removal**

Hillsborough Township does not have a public waste removal system. In order to have trash picked up, Hillsborough Township residents must contact a private company that operates within the town.

## **Large Waste Removal**

If your waste is too large (i.e. large tree branches, plywood, etc.) to be picked up by your contracted company, Hillsborough Township offers dump coupons for township residents only. Each household is eligible for one pass a year. Dump Days occur on two Saturdays a month from April to October. There are only 150 coupons for each day, and are giving out on a first come, first serve basis. For more information regarding schedules and acceptable dumping material, visit the <a href="mailto:Annual Cleanup/Dropoff">Annual Cleanup/Dropoff</a> page on the Department of Public Work's page.

## **Utilities and Communications**

#### **Power**

In Hillsborough the power company for your home is determined by where you live. The majority of the town is serviced by PSE&G, however a small portion, in and around the Neshanic area, is serviced by JCP&L. To see if your service falls in JCP&L's area, look at this <u>map</u> provided by JCP&L.

PSE&G: 1(800) 436-7734

https://www.pseq.com/

JCP&L: 1(800) 662-3115

https://www.firstenergycorp.com/content/customer/jersey\_central\_power\_light.html

#### Water

All water services in Hillsborough are operated by <u>American Water</u>. To set up your water, or to ask any questions, contact American Water at 1(800) 272-1325, or visit their website at <a href="https://amwater.com/njaw/">https://amwater.com/njaw/</a>.

#### Cable

Hillsborough's only cable provider is <u>Comcast</u>. To set up your cable or ask any questions, contact Comcast at 1(800) 934-6489 or visit their website at <a href="https://www.xfinity.com/support/">https://www.xfinity.com/support/</a>. If you do not want cable, there are also Satellite TV providers in the area including Directv and Dish Network.

## **Area Newspapers**

Hillsborough Beacon \* (800) 865-3244
 Courier News (800) 675-8645
 Star Ledger (800) 453-3437

Hillsborough Patch

TapInto Hillsborough

<sup>\*</sup>Official Newspaper of Hillsborough Township - Weekly Newspaper printed every Friday

## **Voter Information**

Registering to vote is easy! Voter registration forms can be obtained in the Administrative Office at the Hillsborough Municipal Complex or online.

Registered voters must vote at certain locations based on where their voting district is located. If you are unaware of what district you live in, you can look it up on this Map of Hillsborough Voting Districts.

## **Voting Locations**

District	Voting Location
1, 8, 30	Neshanic Reformed Church 715 Amwell Road, Hillsborough, NJ
9, 11, 20, 25, 27	Woods Road Firehouse 324 Woods Road, Hillsborough, NJ
2, 13, 14, 16, 19, 33	Mary Mother of God Church 157 South Triangle Road, Hillsborough, NJ
4, 18, 22, 23, 31	Hillsborough High School 466 Raider Boulevard, Hillsborough, NJ
5, 6, 7, 12, 17	Hillsborough Middle School 260 Triangle Road, Hillsborough, NJ
3, 10, 15, 21, 24, 26, 28, 29, 32	Hillsborough Municipal Building 379 South Branch Road, Hillsborough, NJ

## **Elected Officials**

Governor	Phil Murphy - (609) 292-6000
United States Senate	Robert Menendez - (973) 645-3030 Cory Booker - (973) 639-8700
United States House of Representatives	Leonard Lance - (908) 788-6900
New Jersey Senate	Chris "Kip" Bateman - (908) 526-3600
New Jersey Assembly	Roy Freiman - (908) 450-7064 Andrew Zwicker - (609) 454-3147

# **Important Phone Numbers**

Hillsborough Municipal Building	(908) 369-4313
Hillsborough Police Department (non urgent)	(908) 369-4323
Police Records (8:30-4:00, M-F)	(908) 369-4584
Public Works Department	(908) 369-3950
Municipal Court	(908) 369-3532
Hillsborough Library	(908) 369-2200
Hillsborough Board of Education	(908) 431-6600
Somerset County Government Offices	(908) 231-7000
New Jersey Transit	(973) 275-5555
Hillsborough YMCA	(908) 369-0490
Bridgewater Commons Mall	(908) 218-0001
RWJ University Hospital Somerset	(908) 685-2200
University Medical Center of Princeton	(609) 853-7000
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital	(732) 828-3000
St. Peter's University Hospital	(732) 745-8600