Garwood first developed as part of bordering Westfield and Cranford, and was incorporated as its own borough in 1903. Garwood was once the industrial center of Union County but is now a strongly residential community. The borough is located along the Raritan Valley Rail Line and is served by a train station downtown. The Borough of Garwood is governed by the Mayor/Council form of local government. Garwood has a six member borough council and the mayor is directly elected by the voters. The Garwood Sports and Recreation Complex opened in December 2014. The new 3.2 million dollar complex consists of a state-of-the-art field house building complete with concession stand, deck, bathrooms and meeting room, a multi-purpose playing field, basketball court, playground, bocce ball court and walking track.

Transportation

Garwood has a station located on the Raritan Valley Line that makes it easily accessible to New York City and other locations in New Jersey. In March 2014, NJ Transit introduced “one-seat ride” direct access to New York City on certain weekday off-peak trains. Fanwood is also served by NJ Transit bus #’s 113 and 59. Approximately 78.1% of working Garwood residents travel to work by private automobile (74.0% drive alone and 4.1% carpool) and 12.4% use public transportation. 47.7% worked in Union County and 8.9% worked outside New Jersey. The average commute time is 31 minutes.
Housing

Garwood contains 1,880 units of housing; 53.7% are single-unit, detached style, 4.7% are single-unit, attached, 24.5% are in two-unit structures, and 17.2% are in structures with 3 or more units. Approximately 71.5% of Garwood’s housing stock was built before 1960. 95.2% of the housing stock is occupied, with 61.8% occupied by owners and 38.2% occupied by renters. The median home value in Garwood is $365,600 and the median gross rent is $1,433 per month.

Community Facilities & Services

Public Schools:
• Lincoln School (Pre K – 8)
• Garwood students attend Arthur L Johnson High School in Clark, NJ

Fire Department:
• 50-member department
• Non-emergency number (908)789-8877

Police Department:
• 403 South Avenue
• Non-emergency number (908)789-1500

Garwood Public Library:
• 411 Third Avenue

Garwood Employment by Sector

- Management, business, science, arts: 1,037, 44.9%
- Service: 206, 8.9%
- Natural resources, construction, maintenance: 180, 7.8%
- Sales and office: 719, 31.1%
- Production, transportation, material moving: 170, 7.4%

Downtown Garwood near train station. Source: patch.com

Web Links:
- Municipal website: http://garwood.org/
- Union County: http://ucnj.org/
- Public Schools: http://www.garwoodschools.org/
- Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains & Westfield): http://www.gwacnj.com/