

REGIONAL TRAIL GUIDE

Central Ohio Greenways Trails

The Central Ohio Greenways are almost 400 miles of trails connecting people to the region's parks, neighborhoods, rivers, businesses, and cultural attractions. The trails support biking, running, walking, scootering, and roller blading for both recreation and transportation, making them a unique and convenient way to explore Central Ohio.

Legend

- Ohio to Erie Trail**
A 326-mile bicycle route that extends from Lake Erie in Cleveland to the Ohio River in Cincinnati along many local trails and roadways
- Established Trail**
A major paved regional trail with long, largely continuous segments of at least 3 miles
- Emerging Trail**
A trail with existing segments and committed funding in place to address major gaps in the near future
- Developing Trail**
A trail that includes some finished segments but remains highly fragmented
- Featured Ride**
A curated experience that supports exploration of the regional trail network (refer to the back of the map for details); rides begin at the star and turn around at the arrow
- Buckeye Trail**
A 1,440-mile statewide hiking route
- Blueway Water Trail**
A state-designated float / kayak trail
- State Bike Route**
A state-designated bike route
- Park / Open Space**
- Water**
- County Boundary**

Ohio to Erie Trail

The Ohio to Erie Trail is a 326-mile bicycle route, made up of many trails and some on-road segments, that extends from Lake Erie in Cleveland to the Ohio River in Cincinnati. The Central Ohio portion runs through 103 miles of Knox, Delaware, Franklin, and Madison counties along some of the region's most popular trails. Day trips with out-and-back rides, like the ones below, offer a great introduction to the Ohio to Erie Trail experience. Visit ohio.toerietrail.org for additional ride planning support.

Columbus to London

Ride 27 miles round-trip from Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park at Alkire Road to the Prairie Grass Trailhead in London (or where the trail intersects Maple Street to avoid on-road segments) along the Camp Chase Trail, Roberts Pass, and Prairie Grass Trail. Check out the London Community Mural before heading back toward Columbus!

Sunbury to Mount Vernon

Ride 46 miles round-trip from JR Smith Park in Sunbury (turn right onto Cherry Street from the parking lot, then left onto the trail in a half mile) to the Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau in Mount Vernon along the Sandel Legacy Trail, Ohio to Erie Trail, and Heart of Ohio Trail. Stop along the way in Centerburg and take a selfie at the High Point of the Trail!

Through Columbus

Use the Alum Creek or Olentangy Trail in combination with the Scioto Trail (and some on-road segments) to connect the two routes above and follow the Ohio to Erie Trail through downtown Columbus.

Regional Trail Highlights

As communities invest in the comfort, connectivity, and overall experience of their trails, new places to explore will continue to emerge. Keep traveling Central Ohio's trails to experience the evolution of the regional trail network! Some current regional highlights include:

Dublin's Quality Pedestrian Infrastructure

Dublin's Emerald Trail and robust network of sidepaths have enabled bike travel citywide. The Dublin Link pedestrian bridge connects Historic Dublin to the newer Bridge Park development across the Scioto River, making safe travel between them possible for all ages.

Grove City's Exceptional Wayfinding

Grove City's signage program has made wayfinding through its central city and parks almost effortless. Easy-to-understand bikeway signs appear at all decision points, allowing riders to feel confident about where they are and where they are going.

Big Walnut Trail

The Big Walnut Trail along Big Walnut Creek is, as of 2026, the fastest developing trail in the region. Once complete, users will be able to ride on-trail from Hoover Reservoir to Three Creeks Park using this trail in combination with the Alum Creek Trail and the Blacklick Creek Trail.

Darby Creek Trail

The Darby Creek Trail travels alongside the Big Darby Creek, a State and National Scenic River that is one of the most biologically diverse aquatic systems in the Midwest. Portions of this trail feature crushed limestone instead of traditional pavement to better support this rare ecosystem.

Central Ohio Greenways Trail Map Disclaimer and Limitation of Liability:

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This map was produced by MORPC in collaboration with Designing Local and Alta Planning + Design.



State Bike Routes, designated by the Ohio Department of Transportation, connect population centers and destinations throughout the state. Use caution and note that these are often on-road bike routes, not trails.

Ohio's Rolling Hills Region, primarily located in the southeastern Appalachian Plateau, spans 32 counties, including Perry County and Hocking County in Central Ohio. The region features unglaciated, rugged terrain, deep forests, and scenic valleys. It is defined by its natural beauty, outdoor recreation opportunities, including the Buckeye Trail and Hocking Hills State Park, and historic Appalachian trail towns such as the Village of Shawnee. Note that bicycling is not permitted or recommended on all Buckeye Trail segments.

Water Trails

Ohio's waterways offer opportunities for recreational boating, angling, and wildlife spotting. Combine a bike trip with a river trip to maximize your outdoor adventure.

The **Great Miami River Water Trail** originates in Logan County near Indian Lake and flows 156 miles to the Ohio River.

The **Mad River Water Trail** flows southwest for 65 miles from Logan County to the Great Miami River in Dayton.

The **Mohican River Water Trail** flows 28 miles from the Clear Fork to the confluence of the Kokosing State Scenic River.

The **Kokosing River Water Trail** in Knox County originates in Mount Vernon and flows 28 miles to the Mohican River, with which it merges to become the Wauhatchie River.

Scan the QR code to learn more!

Etiquette & Safety

Wear a helmet. Protect your face and head, and potentially save your life, with a well-fitting bicycle helmet.

Communicate. Use hand signals for turning, slowing, and stopping.

Keep to the right. Yield to pedestrians and slower-moving traffic, except when passing.

Slow down. Respect that when there are many users on the trail, there is a greater risk of conflict.

Use caution at crossings. Look both ways and remember that pedestrians always have the right of way.

Advise others when passing. Sound your bell or call out when approaching pedestrians or slower cyclists, then pass safely on their left.

Tourism Partners

EXPERIENCE COLUMBUS

Experience Columbus
Experience Columbus, the destination marketing organization for Greater Columbus, is dedicated to growing visitor spending and enhancing their experience. In 2024, there were 53.2 million trips to the region, generating \$8.2 billion and supporting 82,500 jobs — one in every 13 jobs in Franklin County.



Outdoor Trails Pass

The Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass is a partnership between Experience Columbus and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission that offers the perfect way to enjoy hiking, biking, jogging, and paddling with friends or family. Check in along the trail for a chance to win a \$100 gift card to a local Columbus business!



Visit Knox County

The Knox County CVB, located in the historic CA&C Visitor Center, invites you to explore the 35+ miles of scenic trails located across Knox County, Ohio. Discover the unexplored and unexpected!



Visit Fairfield County

Fairfield County is the perfect destination for outdoor enthusiasts, foodies, shoppers, and adventure seekers alike. From serene parks and trails to unique shops and a diverse mix of entertainment and dining options, there's something here for everyone.

Scan the QR codes for more information!



Trail Towns

Trail Towns of Central Ohio is a regional program that helps communities embrace their nearby trails and waterways. It strengthens trail-to-town connections, supports local businesses, and fosters a welcoming culture of walking, biking, and paddling. The program promotes tourism, strengthens community identity, and expands access to nature while celebrating the unique character of trail-connected communities across the region.

Scan the QR code to learn more!

This map of Ohio displays a network of trails and natural features. A legend in the bottom left corner identifies the symbols: a solid green line for 'Existing Trail', a dotted green line for 'Future Trail', a blue line for 'River/Water', and a light green shaded area for 'Open Space / Park'. The map shows numerous trails across the state, with a high concentration in the central and eastern regions. Key trails include the Appalachian Trail in the west, the Erie Canal Trail in the north, and the Ohio and Erie Canalway in the east. Major rivers like the Ohio, Mississippi, and Great Lakes are shown in blue. Light green areas represent parks and open spaces, such as the Cuyahoga Valley National Park in the northeast and the Scioto Valley in the south. County names are labeled throughout the map, and major highways are indicated by numbered lines.

These routes showcase the broad range of experiences available along Central Ohio's trail network. Riding them, you will enjoy some of the region's most unique and exceptional destinations, histories, landscapes, and businesses. Try them all!

Regional Trail Vision

The map at left shows how the Central Ohio Greenways will expand to accommodate the region's anticipated population growth. The vision includes more than 1,000 miles of regional multiuse trails connecting neighborhoods, activity centers, parks, and cultural destinations. Over time, Central Ohio will become even more accessible by foot and by bike. Visit centralohiogreenways.com for updates on this vision and its implementation.

Note that these maps are illustrative and the narratives are brief overviews; both reflect conditions likely to change as the trail network evolves. Please consult additional route planning resources before attempting a ride.

LEGEND

	Featured Ride Start & Turnaround		Wayfinding Alert
	Park		Dining
	Business District		Selfie Spot
	Restroom		Attraction
	Visitor Center		Scenic Overlook
	Trailhead		Transit Stop
	Free Parking		Bike Repair
			Road Crossing

Round-trip Distance
8.2 miles

Conditions
Flat, paved

Ride Time
+/- 1.25 hours

Setting
Waterfront

Appropriate For
All Ages

Buckeye Lake Welcome Center
4894 Walnut Rd, Buckeye Lake
Open seasonally

Crane Lake Beach
Historic amusement park relic
Canal history kiosk

Buckeye Lake State Park
2871 Leibs Island Rd, Millersport
State Park Archery Range
Canal history kiosk

Sellers Point

Leibs Island

MILLERSPORT RD NE

LAKESIDE DR NE

WALNUT RD

N BANK RD

BUCKEYE LAKE

LAKE RD NE

A leisurely lakefront route with unexpected history and water recreation opportunities!

Park in the lot on Leibs Island across from the Buckeye Lake State Park Archery Range and head toward the information kiosk at its southwest corner. After reading about the lake's canal history, enter the trail and continue for 4 miles to Crane Lake Beach and a fountain relic from when the area was a theme park. Along the way, stop for ice cream, rent a kayak for water fun, or just pause to watch the crowds go by. During summer, visit the Welcome Center on Walnut Road to learn about other fun things to do in the area before heading back the way you came. Experienced cyclists can complete the 26-mile, on-road Buckeye Lake Trail by following the arrows on BLT signs.

Worthington Hills Park
7740 Olentangy River Rd, Columbus

Olentangy Parklands
Skate park
Mountain bike course

On-road segment
East on bikeway past No Outlet signs
Right on Evening St
Left on New England Ave to High St

Old Worthington

Antrim Lake
Walking trails

Whetstone Park & Columbus Park of Roses
Clintonville Branch Library

On-road segment
Como Ave to High St

Clintonville & Old North

Tuttle Park
Recreation center
Community pool

The Ohio State University & Medical Center

University District

On-road segment
Continue under and then cross 3rd Ave bridge.

Wayfinding Alert

Schottenstein Center

Ohio Stadium

On-road segment
East on 12th Ave
Left on Neil Ave
Right on 12th Ave to High St

Arena District
Scott's Miracle-Gro Field
Huntington Park
Nationwide Arena

On-road segment
East on Nationwide Blvd
Left on Front St to Vine St

North Market

The Short North

Greater Columbus Convention Center

Legend:
Round-trip Distance: 30 miles
Conditions: Mostly flat, paved, optional on-road segments
Ride Time: +/- 4.5 hours
Setting: Urban
Appropriate For: Ages 10+

QR Code: Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera or visit COTA.com to view bus routes and stops.

Map Labels: 270, 161, 315, 71, 70, 670, DUBLIN GRANVILLE RD, HIGH ST, MORRIS RD, N BROADWAY, LANE AVE, JOHN HERRICK DR, VINE AVE, 3RD AVE, HIGH & SPRUCE STS.

Main St
Main St & Collegeview Rd

Sharon Woods Metro Park

Alum Creek Park North
221 W Main St, Westerville
Amphitheater
Ball courts & fields
Playgrounds
Shelter & seating
Water
Additional free parking across the street at Astronaut Grove

On-road segment
Right on Park St
Right on Grove St
Left on Plum St to State St

Uptown Westerville

Alum Creek Park South

Cooper Sports Park

Cooper Rd

James D. Castro Park

Strawberry Farms Park

Pathways Park

Easton Town Center

On-road segment
Easton Way to Easton Loop
Challenging incline

Innis Park

Shepard Branch Library

Wayfinding Alert
Cross Clifton Ave, turn left to cross the bridge and then right to continue on the trail.

Franklin Park Conservatory

Nelson Park

Wolfe Park

On-road segment
Ridgeview Ave to parking lot

Bexley

On-road segment
Right on Park Hill Dr
Right on Westland Ave
Right on Parkview Ave to Main St

Legend:

- Round-trip Distance: 28 miles
- Conditions: Mostly flat, paved, optional on-road segments
- Ride Time: +/- 4.5 hours
- Setting: Urban/Suburban
- Appropriate For: Ages 12+

QR Code: Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera or visit [COTA.com](https://www.cota.com) to view bus routes and stops.

Route Description: A parks-oriented route along Alum Creek that treats riders to two exquisite suburban business districts!

Additional Info: Eat a hearty breakfast in Uptown Westerville before setting off from Alum Creek Park North, enjoying the lush scenery and babbling creek as you travel south. Explore any of the numerous parks along the way, and consider an excursion into Easton Town Center at about the halfway point. The Shepard Branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library is a perfect place to recharge, or continue to Wolfe Park where you can cross the pedestrian bridge toward Franklin Park Conservatory or ride comfortable streets into downtown Bexley for lunch. Ride back the way you came, or take a COTA bus toward Westerville upon consulting a transit app.

Round-trip Distance
15 miles

Conditions
Mostly flat, paved, some cracks

Ride Time
+/- 2 hours

Setting
Rural

Appropriate For
Ages 10+

Map Labels:

- To Washington Court House (25 miles)
- Hopewell Mound Group**
Visitor center located at 16062 SR 104
- On-road segment**
Right on Maple Grove Rd
Left on Sulphur Lick Rd
- Adena Mansion & Gardens Historical Site**
Challenging route, biking not recommended
- Clinton Rd
- Hopewell Mound City Group Visitor Center**
- Wayfinding Alert**
Stay right on Larick Ln.
- On-road segment**
Right on Riverside St
Left on Mulberry St
Caution crossing Water St
Right on 2nd St to Paint St
- Yoctangee Park**
Riverside St & Paint Creek Trail
Pump House Center for the Arts
Playgrounds
Ball courts & fields
Skate park
Community pool
Pavilions
- Downtown Chillicothe**
Ross County Historical Society sites

Route Description: Enter the trail from the Yoctangee Park trailhead and continue 7.5 miles to Maple Grove Road. Turn right and then left at Sulphur Lick Road directly into the Hopewell Mound Group site. Park and walk its 2.2-mile loop, which features interpretive panels about this new UNESCO World Heritage Site and those who created its earthworks 2,000 years ago. Ride back the way you came and explore the many activities within Yoctangee Park before riding into downtown, where the Ross County Heritage Center tells the city's story and several historic restaurants serve up delicious food. Drive to the Adena Mansion site or the Hopewell Mound City Group Visitor Center for more Ohio history!

Bellefontaine Trailhead
Carter Ave & Simon Kenton Trail

Round-trip Distance
14.5 miles

Conditions
Flat, crushed limestone, optional on-road segments

Ride Time
+/- 2 hours

Setting
Rural

Appropriate For
Ages 10+

Downtown Bellefontaine
Holland Theatre
America's First Concrete Street (Court Ave)

On-road segment
Right on Carter Ave
Left on Detroit St
Left on Water Ave
Right on Elm St
Left on Chillicothe Ave
Right on Elm St
Right on Columbus Ave

Train cars

Downtown West Liberty
Library
Grocery store

On-road segment
Left on Township Highway 193
Left on Sidney Rd to the trailhead
Right on Sidney Rd
Left on Tupper St
Right on Baird St

West Liberty Trailhead
Bike repair
Shelter & seating
Water

Bike mural

To Springfield (25 miles) & the Miami Valley Trails network

A rural rail-trail that connects riders to two charming small towns and trails leading to southern Ohio!

Start from the trailhead at Carter Avenue in Bellefontaine and head south for an easy 7 miles to West Liberty. Relax at the trailhead there and continue on-road into downtown for treats and amenities, or continue south to Urbana or Springfield (and beyond) if you want a longer ride. When you are ready, head back the way you came to the trailhead, from which you can follow a one-mile signed route into downtown Bellefontaine to shop and eat, watch a show at the historic Holland Theatre, and check out the oldest concrete street in America.

To To Ohio State University (3 miles) & **Worthington** (11 miles)

Scott's Miracle-Gro Field

North Bank Park

National Veterans Memorial & Museum

Center of Science & Industry (COSI)

Franklinton

Dodge Park
Recreation center
Outdoor pool
Skate park
Field hockey rink
Ball courts & fields

Scio Audubon Metro Park
400 W Whittier St, Columbus
Obstacle course
Climbing wall
Nature center
Dog park

City Hall

Ohio Statehouse

Columbus Commons

Bicentennial Park
Amphitheater
Splash fountain

On-road segment
East on Rich St or Town St to High St

On-road segment
McDowell St to Town St

Under construction

Round-trip Distance
6.5-mile loop

Conditions
Flat, paved

Ride Time
+/- 1 hour

Setting
Urban

Appropriate For
All Ages

Round-trip Distance
17 miles

Conditions
Flat, paved

Ride Time
+/- 2 hours

Setting
Rural

Appropriate For
All Ages

A zippy ride through fantastic scenery, with spots to pause and take it all in!

Park at the Holland Road trailhead and explore its playground, nature center, and Little Free Library before setting out on the trail. Enjoy a Book Walk along the mile to Community Foundation Lake, where you can stroll the 0.8-mile waterfront path and search for wildlife. Continue a short distance on the trail to relax on benches overlooking beautiful fields of tallgrass. Families with young kids can turn around here, while others can continue to the trailhead at Deciff Road or the trail terminus at Hardin-Marion Road. Return to the Holland Road trailhead and drive 3 miles east to explore downtown Marion's Harding presidential sites, Wyandot Popcorn Museum, Palace Theatre, and more.

Deciff Rd Trailhead
Bike repair
Little Free Library
Shelter & seating

Marion Community Foundation Lake
Walking path closed when Marion Airfoils are flying

Tallgrass fields

Let's Read Book Walk

Holland Rd Trailhead
2093 Holland Rd, Marion
Little Free Library
Nature center
Playground
Shelter & seating
Water

Downtown Marion
Harding presidential sites
Marion County Historical Society
Wyandot Popcorn Museum
Marion Palace Theatre
Explore-It-Torium

200
HARDING HWY W
WILDCAT PIKE
DECIFF BI-G BIG ION RD
LARIUE-DECIFF RD
SCOTO RIVER
HOLLAND RD

To trail terminus at Hardin-Marion Rd (4 miles)

Downtown Johnstown

Johnstown Trailhead Park
Mastadon Preserve
Dog park
Shelter & seating
Water

On-road segment
Left on Jersey St
Right on Pratt St to Main St

Alexandria Trailhead
Bike repair

Raccoon Valley Rd

Downtown Granville

On-road segment
Pearl St to Broadway

Licking County Farm YMCA
470 W Church St, Newark

Cherry Valley Rd Park & Ride

**Octagon Earthworks (A)
Newark Earthworks (B)**
Challenging routes, biking not recommended

Round-trip Distance
35 miles

Conditions
Mostly flat, paved, optional on-road segments

Ride Time
+/- 5 hours

Setting
Rural

Appropriate For
Ages 12+

A ride through Ohio's heartland highlighting the farms and small towns that characterize this special region!

Park at the Licking County Farm YMCA in Newark and ride west following Raccoon Creek. After several miles of enjoying the scenery, and with grain silos in sight, turn right to climb the Pearl Street hill to Broadway and explore quaint downtown Granville, or ride past the silos to stop trailside at Main Street businesses for rest and refreshments. Turn around here for a shorter ride — and one that avoids major road crossings — or continue on the path to Wildwood Park Playground and through farmland to Johnstown, another charming Main Street. Consider driving to the two Native American earthworks sites, which are part of the new UNESCO World Heritage Site designation, upon your return to Newark.

Heritage Trail

Legend:

- Round-trip Distance: 4 miles
- Conditions: Flat, paved
- Ride Time: +/- 35 minutes
- Setting: Suburban
- Appropriate For: All Ages

Homestead Metro Park
4675 Cosgray Rd, Hilliard
Playgrounds & train caboose
Fishing pond
Ball courts

Merchant Park
Labyrinth
Pond & gazebo

Hilliard's Station Park
Civic & Cultural Center
Early Television Museum
Splash pad
Murals

Roger A. Reynolds Municipal Park

Trail Callouts:

- To Heritage Trail Metro Park (5 miles) & Plain City (5 miles)
- Hidden Run Trail
- Leppert Rd
- MAINT ST

Route Description:

A route for families with kids of all ages, with plenty of activities for a full day of fun!

Park in the southeast lot of Homestead Metro Park and explore its playgrounds (one is accessible) before riding past the train car to turn left onto the trail. Well-marked crossings at Cosgray and Leppert Roads can help kids learn to dismount and walk their bikes for safety. A sign at the trailside bike repair station offers a mindfulness activity for everyone to try. While Merchant Park has a calming labyrinth and pond. Enjoy food, programming, a splash pad, and unique cultural destinations at Hilliard's Station Park before taking a family selfie at the train mural and riding back to the park to conclude your big adventure.