



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Fred Meijer
Heartland
Trail**
Michigan



Fred Meijer Heartland Trail

Michigan

Overview The paved Fred Meijer Heartland Trail rolls for nearly 42 miles through farmland and forests in central Michigan as it links



Overview

The paved Fred Meijer Heartland Trail rolls for nearly 42 miles through farmland and forests in central Michigan as it links a half-dozen rural towns with recreational opportunities.

About the Route

The southwestern end of the trail leaves off from just north of Jackson's Landing Park, but note that parking near the endpoint is available only on the south side of East Washington Street. Heading north, the trail passes an old railroad depot at East Grove and North Court Streets and crosses the Flat River on a restored trestle. Here, at Water Works Park, trail users will find Little

League fields and more public parking.

A trail interruption creates a 2.1-mile detour on bike lanes on Peck and South Lake Roads until the trail regains its off-road route for a peaceful stretch through prime farmland, woods, wildlife areas, wetlands, and small historic towns. A side trip on Sidney Road visits the Heritage Village at Montcalm Community College, where a cluster of 28 historical buildings depict life at the turn of the 20th century.

Before arriving in Stanton, the trail crosses Fish Creek on an 1880 trestle that was relocated here from Greenville. There are a variety of eateries in Stanton and McBride, and in between trail users may be surprised by roaring dragsters at the Mid-Michigan Motorplex.

The railroad crossroads town of Edmore marks roughly halfway along the trail. Trail users can find more places to eat here, as well as eclectic memorabilia at the Old Fence Rider Historical Center on South Sheldon Street. In about 3 miles, the trail crosses County Road 575 just 200 feet south of the trail's oddest landmark, a two-story outhouse. Legend has it that a local businessman built it next to his two-story office/home so his family could have a private upstairs entrance.

The trail passes through Vestaburg State Game Area for 2.5 miles. Many white-tailed deer, foxes, muskrats, and other animals can be seen here. Ten miles past Edmore, you'll pass a restored one-room schoolhouse in Riverdale. The town of Elwell, 2 miles farther, has limited services for trail users, but the trail's route comes to its northern endpoint 4 miles later in Alma, home of Alma College and the Highland Festival, as well as cafés, grocery stores, and a bike shop.

Connections

At the southern end of the trail, trail users can connect to the [Fred Meijer Flat River Valley Rail Trail](#) or the [Fred Meijer Flat River Trail](#).



Fred Meijer Heartland Trail

Michigan

States: Michigan

Counties: Gratiot, Montcalm

Length: 41.9 miles

Trail end points: E. Washington St.
(Greenville) to Prospect Ave. (Alma)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Wheelchair Accessible, Walking, Cross

Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

The Fred Meijer Heartland Trail runs between E. Washington St. (Greenville) and Prospect Ave. (Alma), with parking at both ends.

Parking is available at:

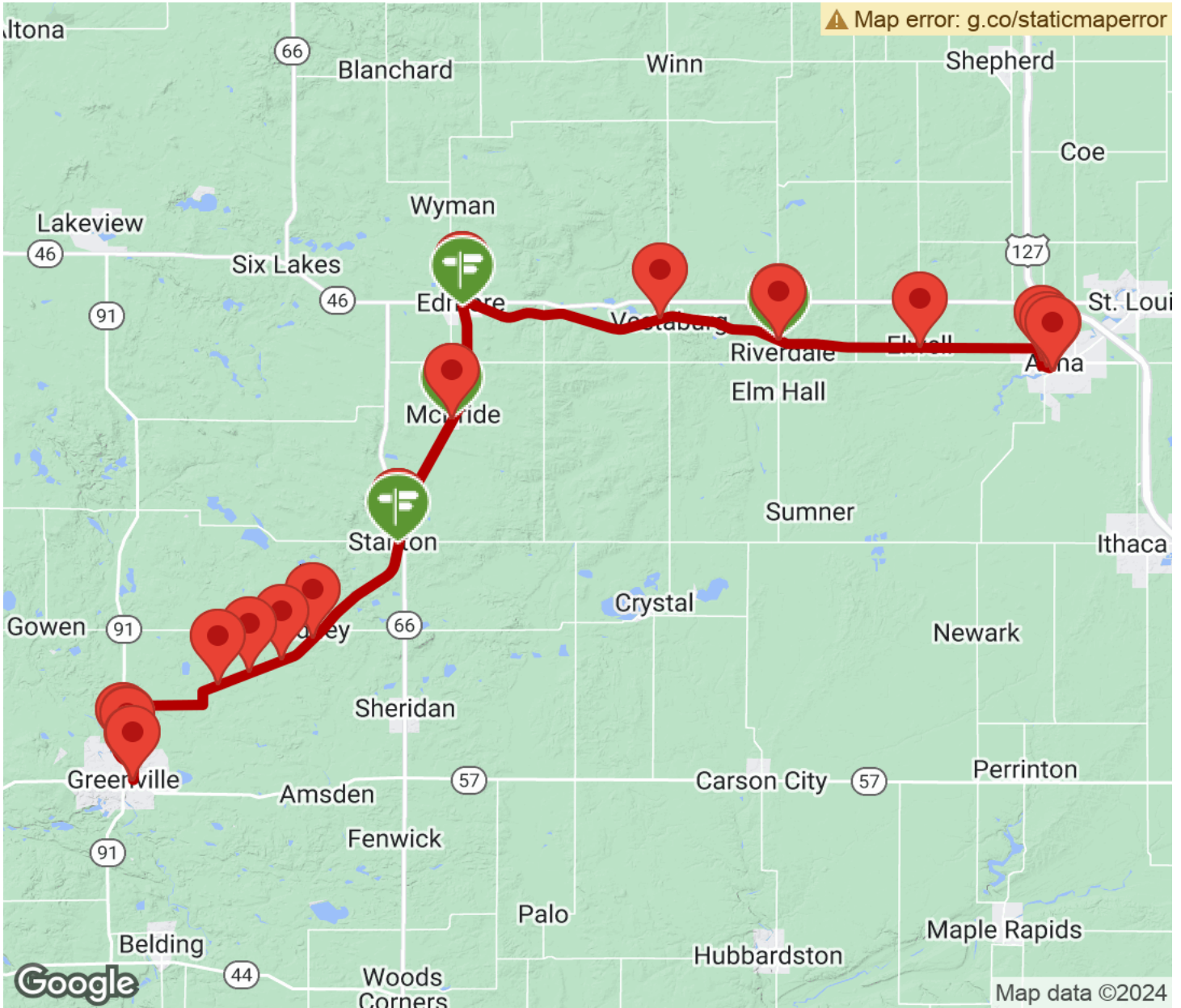
- 8801-8841 1st St (Vestaburg)

See [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



Fred Meijer Heartland Trail

Michigan



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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