



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail

Minnesota



Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail

Minnesota

Overview The Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail runs southwest from the Minneapolis suburb of Hopkins to Carver



Overview

The Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail runs southwest from the Minneapolis suburb of Hopkins to Carver Bluffs Parkway and Carver Creek Circle. The trail is over 19 miles in length and occupies a former rail corridor originally built by the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railway and later abandoned by the Chicago and North Western Railway. The right-of-way is now owned by the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA), which intends to use a short portion of the corridor in Hopkins for a future light rail line.

About the Route

Leaving off from the trail's northernmost endpoint,

located at 9451 Excelsior Boulevard in Hopkins, trail users are immediately treated to the Depot Coffee House, housed in a restored train station.

Heading south, the Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail passes a number of industrial and commercial properties in Hopkins before emerging into open space next to Shady Oak Lake. Much of the rest of the route consists of a similar landscape, although residential neighborhoods make up the scenery in Eden Prairie. Popular Miller Park emerges just past State Route 5/Arboretum Boulevard. The park contains several ball fields and stunning views of Mitchell Lake.

Shortly after the trail bridge over busy US 212, the trail runs through the grounds of Bearpath Golf and Country Club. At Riley Lake Park, play a game of softball, tennis, or volleyball, or go for a swim in the park's namesake lake. Just south of the town of Carver, the trail reaches its southern endpoint at Carver Bluffs Park, nestled alongside the Minnesota River.

Connections

The northern endpoint of the Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail also serves as a starting point for the [North Cedar Lake Regional Trail/Cedar Lake Trail](#), [Cedar Lake LRT Regional Trail](#), and the nearby [Lake Minnetonka LRT Regional Trail](#).



Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail

Minnesota

States: Minnesota

Counties: Carver, Hennepin

Length: 19.91 miles

Trail end points: 9451 Excelsior Blvd (Hopkins)
to Carver Bluffs Park, 102 Carver Bluffs Pkwy
(Carver)

Trail surfaces: Crushed Stone

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Walking, Cross Country
Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

The Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail runs between 9451 Excelsior Blvd (Hopkins) and Carver Bluffs Park, 102 Carver Bluffs Pkwy (Carver), with parking available at both ends.

Parking is also available at:

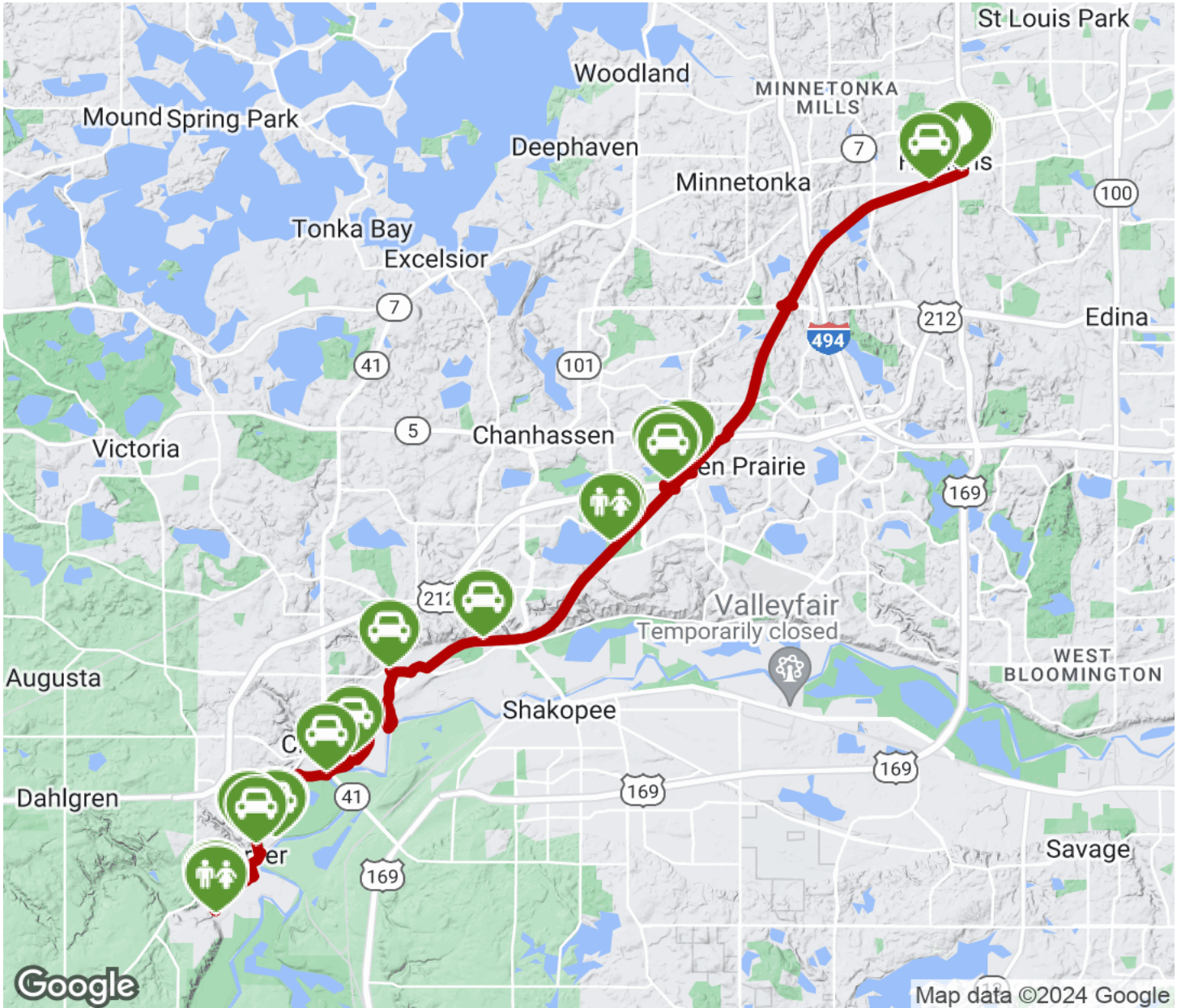
- Miller Park, 8208 Eden Prairie Rd (Eden Prairie)
- Riley Lake Park, 9180 Riley Lake Rd (Eden Prairie)
- Carver Lions Park, 700 Mt Hope Rd (Carver)

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



Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail

Minnesota



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

[TrailLink.com](https://www.TrailLink.com)