



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**DuPage River
Trail**
Illinois



DuPage River Trail

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The DuPage River Trail spans over 30 miles across two counties: DuPage and Will. It's currently open in several disconnected segments mainly in parks and forest preserves beginning in Warrenville and traveling south through Naperville, Bolingbrook, Plainfield, and Shorewood. On its northern end, it also connects with the [Illinois Prairie Path](#), a notable 61-mile pathway in the Rail-Trail Hall of Fame.

Naperville's Centennial Park offers a good rest area at the northern end of the trail. Here, you'll find restrooms, a playground, and athletic fields. The city's DuPage River Park also provides another nice stopping point for your ride with picnic shelters, restrooms, wooded areas, and a pond.

South of downtown Naperville, the trail makes use of city streets. The City of Naperville has posted signs with a safer route that avoids traveling along busy Washington Street and includes less time on Hillside Avenue, which is a thru street.

Heading south from Aurora Ave the route is as follows: Webster Street to Hillside Avenue (crossing Washington Street at a traffic signal) to Melody Lane to Maple Lane to Sunset Drive to Loomis Street and finally to Villa Avenue, where the off-road trail restarts.

A trailside attraction in Bolingbrook is Hidden Lakes Historic Trout Farm. Fishing is allowed in this beautiful park with a permit. The ponds are stocked with trout in April and October, and with catfish from May through September.

The southernmost segment begins at Sunset Parkway, where the trail is almost entirely open and flat across a floodplain of the adjacent DuPage River. Along the way, there's a trail spur with a decorative waterfall and a small rest area with river overview.

Approaching Black Road in Shorewood, the main trail descends to go under the road bridge, next to the river. There is an alternate grade-level crossing of Black Road just to the west, one that can be used when the lower crossing is closed due to flooding. But traffic is often heavy on Black Road and there is no stop light to make that crossing easier and safer.

Once south of Black Road, the remainder of the trail is in beautiful Hammel Woods. The woods entirely cover the trail here, as it moves forward over some gently rolling hills. It passes by two large park areas, the second of which has a most interesting information plaque and display of its Bat Condos. Arriving at the southern trail end, one can proceed across a short bridge to still another park area or on to a picturesque overlook area next to a small dam across the river.

In summer 2018, a 1.25 mile extension was opened connecting



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States: Illinois

Counties: Du Page, Will

Length: 33.1 miles

Trail end points: Warrenville Grove Forest Preserve (Warrenville) to E Jefferson St (Shorewood)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Fishing, Wheelchair

Accessible, Walking, Cross Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

From north to south, parking is available in:

- Centennial Park (500 Jackson Ave., Naperville)
- Veterans Park (303 E Gartner Rd., Naperville)
- Weigand Riverfront Park (2436 S. Washington St., Naperville)
- DuPage River Park (808 Royce Rd., Naperville)
- Trout Farm Park (419 Trout Farm Rd., Bolingbrook)
- Eaton Preserve Park (191 135th St., Plainfield)
- Renwick Community Park (24550 W Renwick Rd., Plainfield)

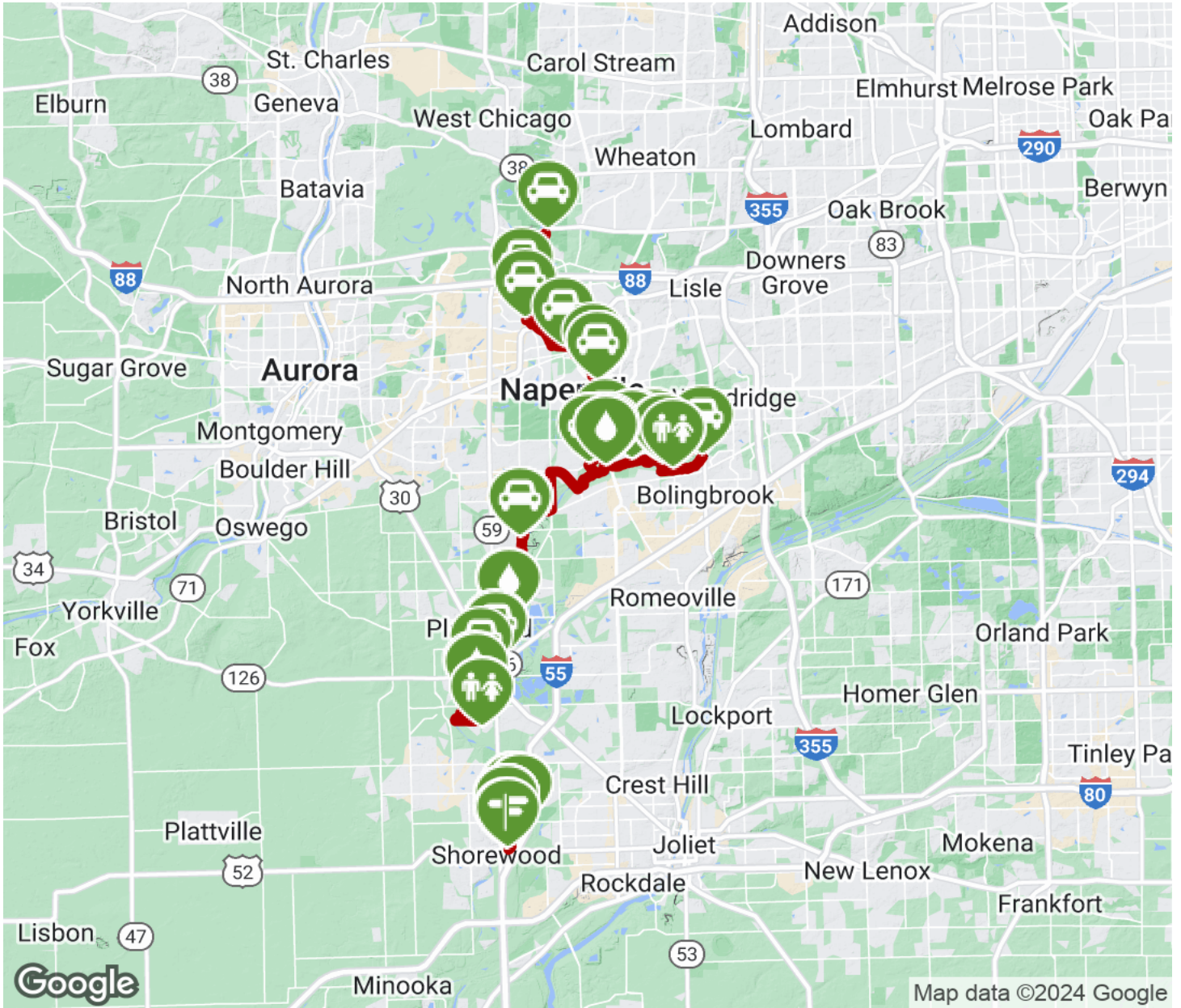
Parking is also available at four areas in Hammel Woods:

- Off Black Road, at Crumby Recreation Area and DuPage River Access
- On the Route 59 Access, at Hidden Shelter and Grinton Grove



DuPage River Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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