



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Cricket Frog  
Trail**  
*Georgia*



# Cricket Frog Trail

Georgia

*Overview Anyone wanting a breath of fresh country air can hop on over to the Cricket Frog Trail in rural Newton County, about 40*



## Overview

Anyone wanting a breath of fresh country air can hop on over to the Cricket Frog Trail in rural Newton County, about 40 miles east of Atlanta. The paved rail trail is named for a quarter-size amphibian that is native to this part of Georgia and is acclaimed for its jumping prowess.

The trail follows a Central of Georgia Railway spur installed in 1893. The trail is split into two sections. The western 5.4-mile segment runs between the county seat of Covington and a closed, dilapidated railroad trestle over the Alcovy River. The 8.2-mile eastern segment proceeds from the river to a park between Mansfield and Newborn. Both sections are paved.

## About the Route

The Cricket Frog Trail leaves off in the west along Turner Lake Rd., although the first parking lot is located 0.6 miles northeast at Turner Lake Park. From there, the trail heads north then east, soon entering the downtown area, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Many eateries cater to county office workers and others doing business in the county seat.

While checking out the sights, trail users can be forgiven for their sense of déjà vu, as things like the circa 1884 courthouse may seem familiar. That's because the downtown has been the location of nearly 70 films and TV shows, from early episodes of *The Dukes of Hazzard* to *My Cousin Vinny* and *The Walking Dead*.

Leaving downtown, the trail enters a large residential area with homes dating from the mid-1800s to the 1940s. Vegetation that has grown up along the rail line provides screen and shade. The paved trail reaches a stopping point at East End Road, about half a mile from Alcovy Bridge, an unsafe trestle that is slated for renovation.

The on-road connection to the nearest trailhead on the east side is not recommended, as the road is heavily trafficked with a very narrow shoulder. Instead, trail users can begin the southern section about 5 miles east of downtown Covington at the Old Starrsville Road trailhead near an old brick warehouse. The area is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has been farmed for generations.

Trail users can either backtrack on the paved trail for 1.5 miles to the river or head east through shady woodlots and former cotton fields for 6 miles to Mansfield, which has several cafés and an old depot at Railroad Avenue and GA 11. The trail reaches its absolute southern end in another 1.3 miles at Zeigler Road, just past Beaver Park, where trail users can find parking, drinking water, and restrooms.



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**States:** Georgia

**Counties:** Newton

Length: 13.6miles

**Trail end points:** Turner Lake Rd. (Covington)  
to Ziegler Rd (Mansfield)

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt, Concrete

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Bike, Inline

Skating, Wheelchair Accessible, Walking

## Parking & Trail Access

The Cricket Frog Trail runs between Turner Lake Rd. (Covington) and Ziegler Rd (Mansfield).

Parking is also available at:

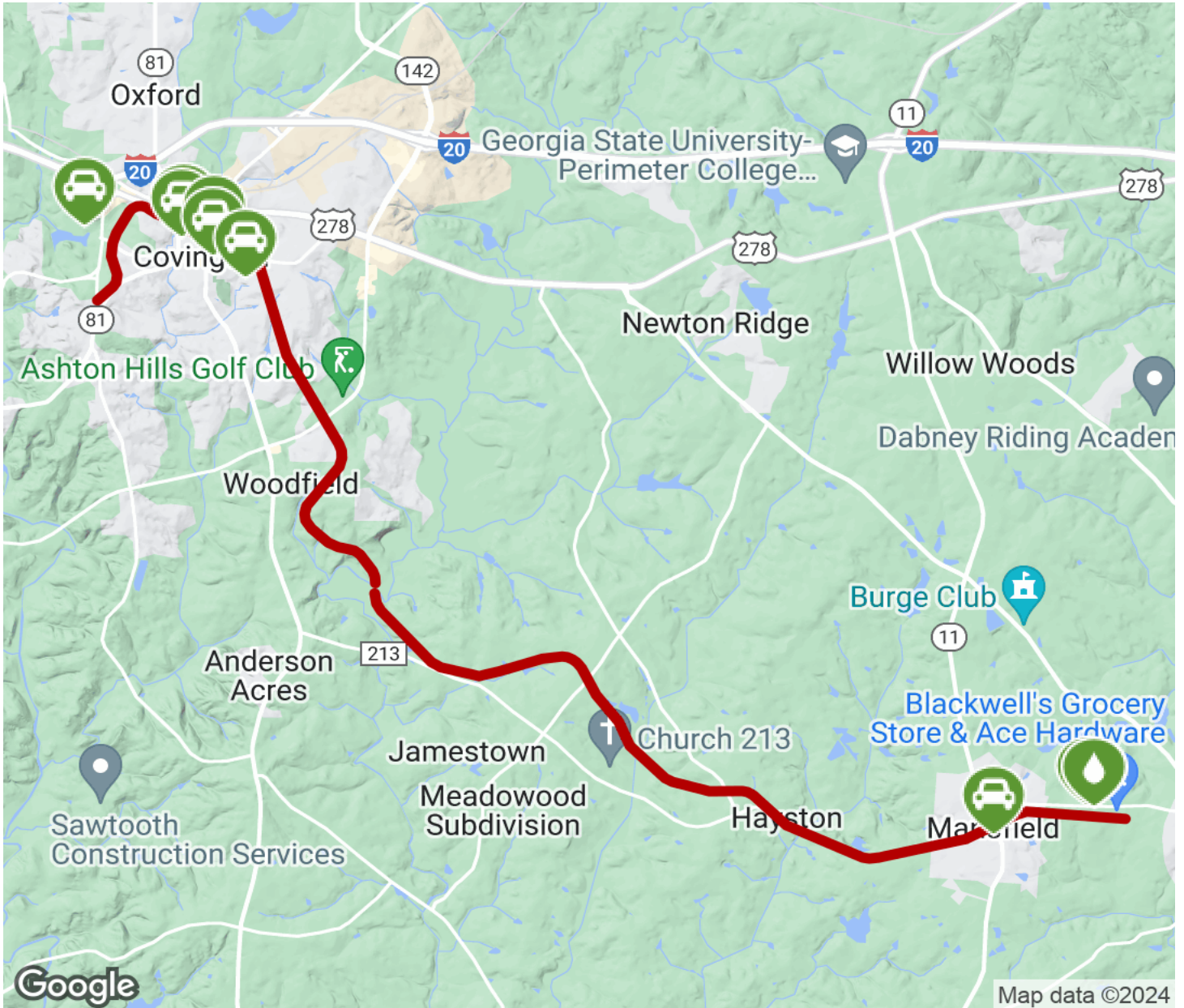
- Newton County Turner Lake Park, 6185 Turner Lake Rd NW (Covington)
- Academy Springs Park, 3120 Conyers St SE (Covington)

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



# Cricket Frog Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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