



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



Big Walnut Trail

Ohio



Big Walnut Trail

Ohio

The developing Big Walnut Trail follows its namesake creek through Columbus and its eastern suburbs of Westerville,



South of Hoover Reservoir Park, other sections of the trail skirt Gahanna's Academy Park, where numerous athletic facilities are available, and the Gahanna Municipal Golf Course.

Near its southern end, the trail loops through Columbus' Elk Run Park, where there's a playground and places to picnic.

Connections

Near its northern end, the trail connects to the [Westerville B&W](#) (Bike & Walk Route), an extensive system of paved multiuse paths including the Chipmunk Chatter Trail and the Towers Trail.

The developing Big Walnut Trail follows its namesake creek through Columbus and its eastern suburbs of Westerville, Gahanna, and Whitehall. Several disconnected segments of the paved pathway are open, currently totaling 10.6 miles.

About the Route

On its northern end, a highlight of the trail is its passage through Hoover Reservoir Park, which offers boating and fishing in the lake, as well as a nature preserve and idyllic habitats for bird watching. This segment ends at North Street; across the roadway, hop on a short spur called the Chipmunk Chatter Trail (part of the [Westerville B&W](#)) to reach Inniswood Metro Gardens, a beautiful, 123-acre oasis with gardens, woodlands, and walking paths.



Big Walnut Trail

Ohio

States: Ohio

Counties: Franklin

Length: 10.6miles

Trail end points: Maxtown Rd & Sunbury Rd
(Westerville) to Elk Run Park (Columbus)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike, Fishing, Inline
Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

The Big Walnut Trail is in several segments between the intersection of Maxtown Rd & Sunbury Rd (Westerville) and Elk Run Park (3600 Hendron Rd, Columbus), where there is parking.

Parking is available at:

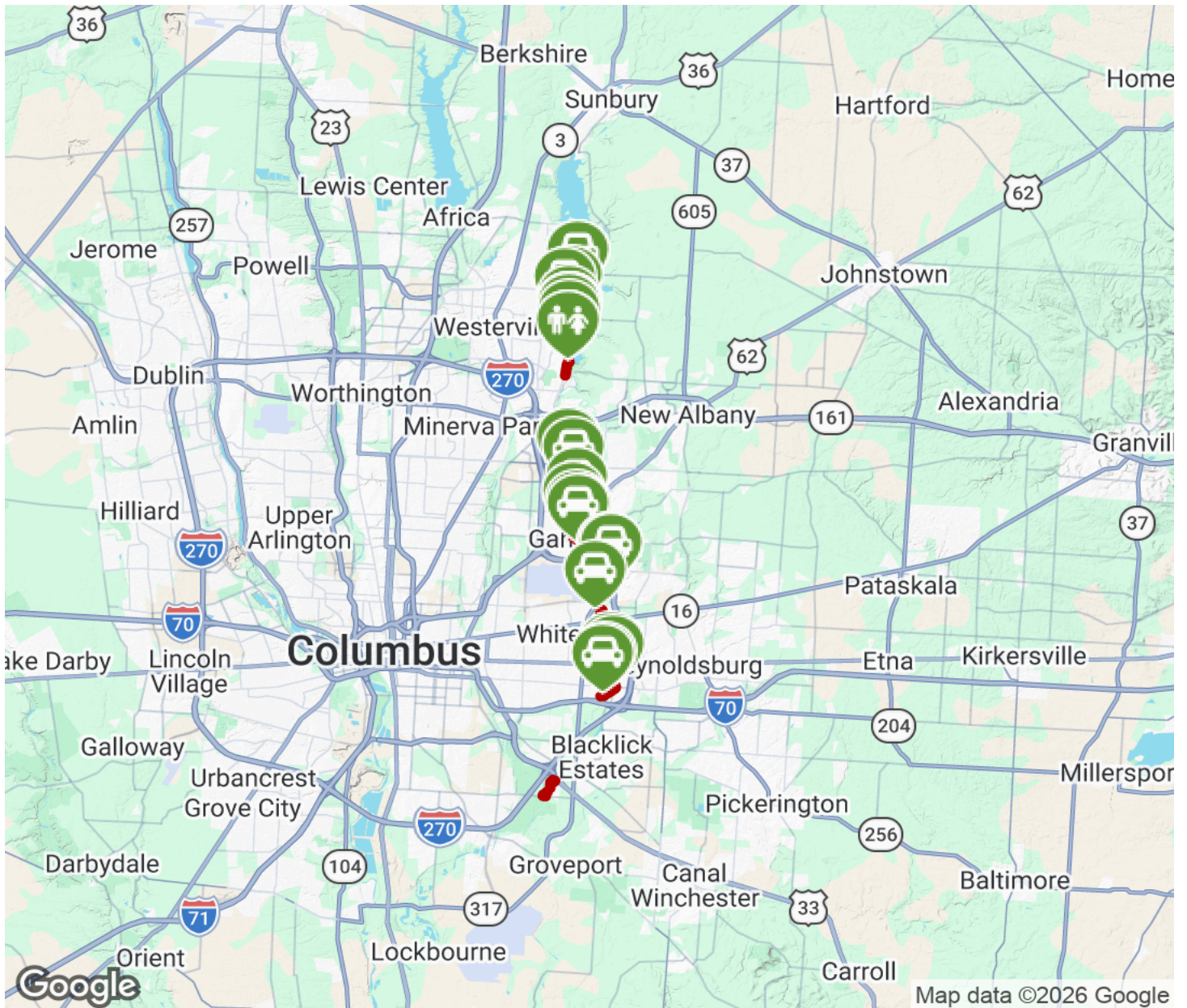
- Hoover Reservoir Park, 7701 Sunbury Rd (Westerville)
- Academy Park, 1201 Cherry Bottom Rd (Gahanna)

Visit the [TrailLink map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



Big Walnut Trail

Ohio



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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