



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



Prairie Land Trail

Iowa



Prairie Land Trail

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The Prairie Land Trail follows an abandoned railroad corridor 13.6 miles between 240th Street in Mason City and 1st Street S in Thornton. With a surface of crushed limestone, the rail-trail runs through bucolic farmland.

The plans for the rail-trail include converting the rest of the 21-mile portion of the former Union Pacific railbed owned by the Iowa Dept of Transportation (IDOT) into usable trail. The trail would stretch across Cerro Gordo county between Mason City and Mersevey, connecting with Mason City's own network of trails.



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com



Prairie Land Trail

Iowa

States: Iowa

Counties: Cerro Gordo

Length: 13.6 miles

Trail end points: 240th St (Mason City) to 1st St S (Thornton)

Trail surfaces: Crushed Stone

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Mountain Biking, Walking

Parking & Trail Access

Parking is available at 10365 150th Street in Swaledale and in a small parking lot at the trail's southern end on 1st Street S in Thornton. Visit the [TrailLink map](#) for detailed directions.



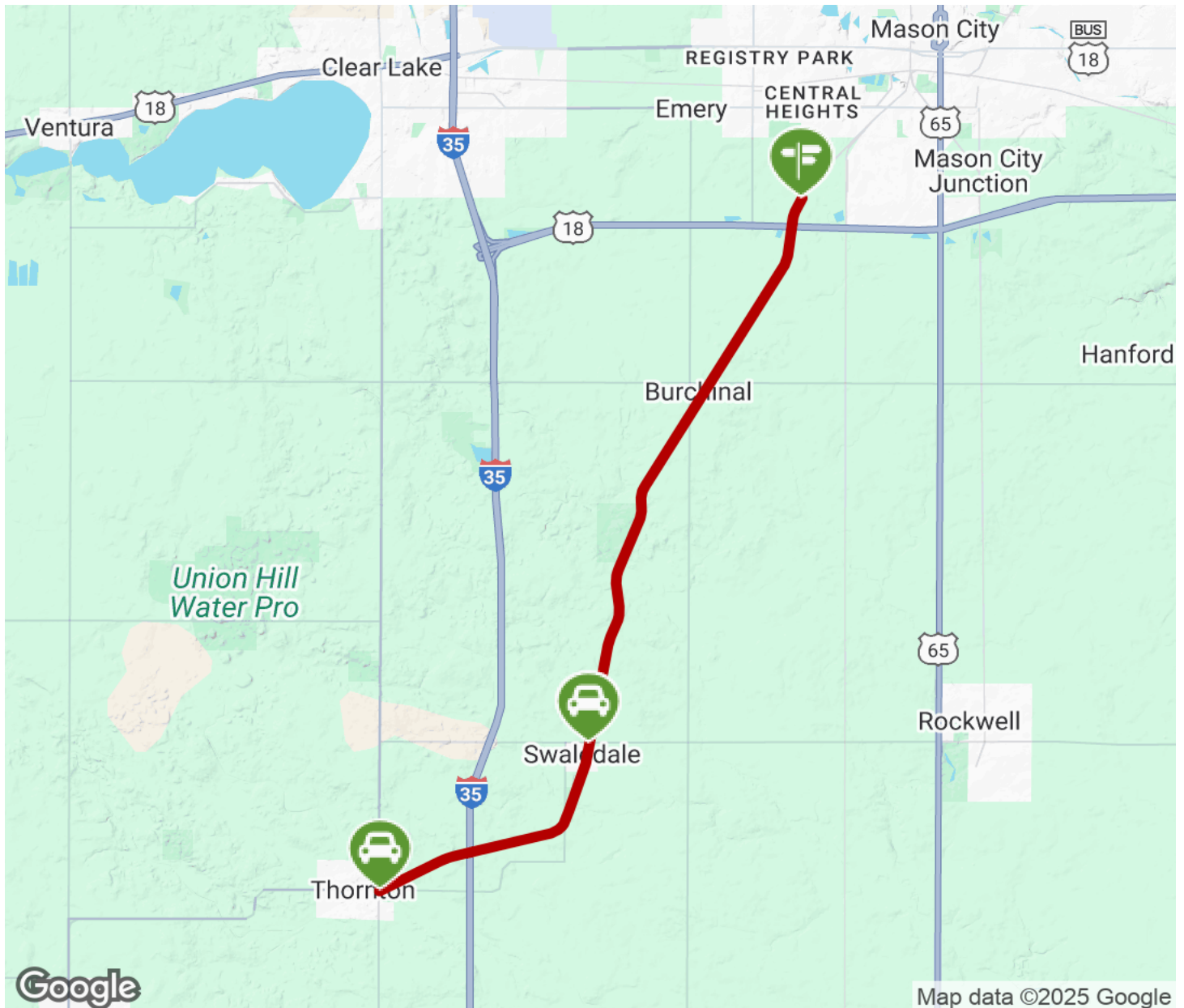
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Prairie Land Trail

Iowa



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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