



2025

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Pennsy Trail  
(IN)**  
*Indiana*



## Pennsy Trail (IN)

Indiana

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The Pennsy Trail is currently open in two main segments.

### About the Route

The western segment leaves off from the eastern side of Indianapolis, linking the Irvington neighborhood with a local elementary school and a large Indiana Department of Transportation complex. The trail utilizes an extra wide sidewalk as it runs along the west side of Ritter Avenue to create a connection with Ellenberger Park and the Pleasant Run Trail. Heading east on the rail corridor, the trail becomes an off-road route and a restored railroad trestle takes trail users over busy Shadeland Avenue.

Local trail managers completed a crucial link on the trail in 2021, allowing for a seamless journey between

Indianapolis and neighboring Cumberland. This section passes industrial properties and crosses several restored railroad bridges through a wooded corridor before emerging into open farmland. The trail parallels US 40 for its entire length (although the highway is always out of view) and thus offers a much safer biking and walking alternative. The trail comes to a halt at a trailhead at County Road 600 W, which offers a small but convenient parking area.

Further east, the Pennsy Trail resumes in the city of Greenfield after a gap of about four miles—a mile-long section of trail was built between County Road 500 W and County Road 400 W in 2021, but this portion is not easily accessible from the main trail until future extensions are completed. Passing through farmland and the Greenfield Country Club golf course, the trail also traverses neighborhoods and is within a short walking distance of downtown. The nearly 6-mile stretch of trail crosses Brandywine Creek, alleged to be the creek where the "Old Swimmin' Hole" was found in James Whitcomb Riley's poem of the same name.

### Connections

At the western end of the trail, trail users can connect to the [Pleasant Run Trail](#).

### Trail History

The straight, paved Pennsy Trail occupies a portion of the old right-of-way of the Pennsylvania Railroad ("Pennsy" for short) and parallels the historic Old National Road. The Indiana portion of the corridor extended from Richmond, Indiana, through Indianapolis to the eastern border of Illinois. Along these tracks, the body of President Abraham Lincoln was carried back to Illinois on April 30, 1865.



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**States:** Indiana

**Counties:** Hancock, Marion

Length: 14.5 miles

**Trail end points:** Ellenberger Park 5301 E St  
Clair St (Indianapolis) to 400E (Greenfield)

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Bike, Inline

Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

## Parking & Trail Access

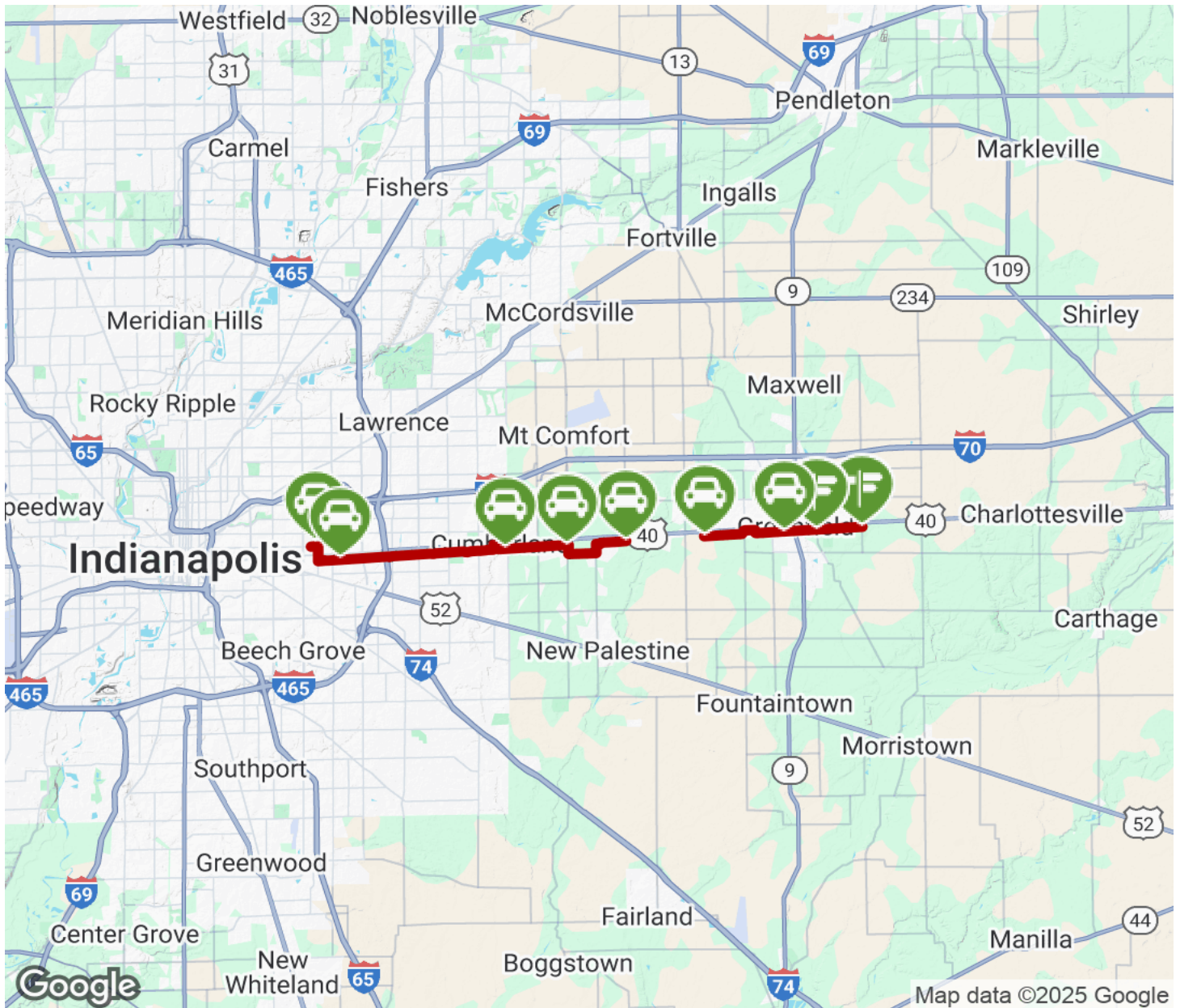
The Pennsy Trail runs between Ellenberger Park 5301 E St Clair St (Indianapolis) and 400E (Greenfield), with parking available at both ends.

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



# Pennsy Trail (IN)

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



**TrailLink**  
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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