



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Pumpkinvine  
Nature Trail**  
*Indiana*



## Pumpkinvine Nature Trail

Indiana

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The Pumpkinvine Nature Trail covers over 18 miles between the towns of Goshen, Middlebury, and Shipshewana. The trail itself is well maintained and includes mile markers. The route is paved, with the exception of a short section of crushed limestone on the leg between Goshen and Middlebury.

### About the Route

This premier rail-trail offers an incredible scenic landscape and a step back in time with sights from Indiana's large Amish communities in Goshen, Middlebury, and Shipshewana. Glimpses of Amish people tending fields with horse-drawn plows, hand-cutting fields of flowers, biking down the trail in old-fashioned clothing, and riding in buggies offer a unique experience.

The southwest end of the path begins in downtown Goshen, close to the existing active rail line, and seamlessly connects at North Fifth Street to the [Wilden Avenue Trail](#), and connects to the [MapleHeart Trail](#), which goes all the way into Elkhart.

As you head east out of Goshen, interpretive signage explains the railroad history of the area through which you're traveling. A restored railroad viaduct carries you across a small creek and into a quaint neighborhood. A second bridge, equally well preserved, is a short distance ahead. After the trail crosses IN 4 at a crosswalk, it immediately rolls into a wooded area on its way to Abshire Park, which makes for a nice rest area. When the path crosses IN 4 again, the surface changes to hard-packed crushed limestone for 1.75 miles to County Road 28.

In the fall of 2023, the final section between County Roads 20 and 35 was finished, which marked the completion of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail. The remaining miles toward Middlebury are beautiful, enveloped in a thick forest of maple and oak trees. More than 30 species of wildflowers bloom along the trail in spring.

In Middlebury, the route runs north through a tunnel under US 20 and runs behind businesses along Main Street as it approaches spectacular Krider World's Fair Garden, a replica of a world's fair exhibit that ran 1933–1934. This lovely trailhead includes a pavilion and picnic tables, bike rack, and signage. Leaving the gardens, you pass over a 160-foot wooden trestle across the Little Elkhart River before reaching Main Street, where you cross the road and follow the sidewalk north (left) for a short while to reconnect with the trail on your right.

The remaining section of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail to Shipshewana can only be described as breathtaking. You'll enjoy the wooded tree canopy with glimpses of farms beyond; horses are nose to nose with you along the trail, and rustic



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**States:** Indiana

**Counties:** Elkhart, Lagrange

Length: 18.6 miles

**Trail end points:** N Fifth St (Goshen) to Depot St (Shipshewana)

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt, Crushed Stone

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Bike, Inline

Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible, Cross Country Skiing

## Parking & Trail Access

The Pumpkinvine Nature Trail runs between N Fifth St (Goshen) and Depot St (Shipshewana), where parking is available.

Parking is also available at:

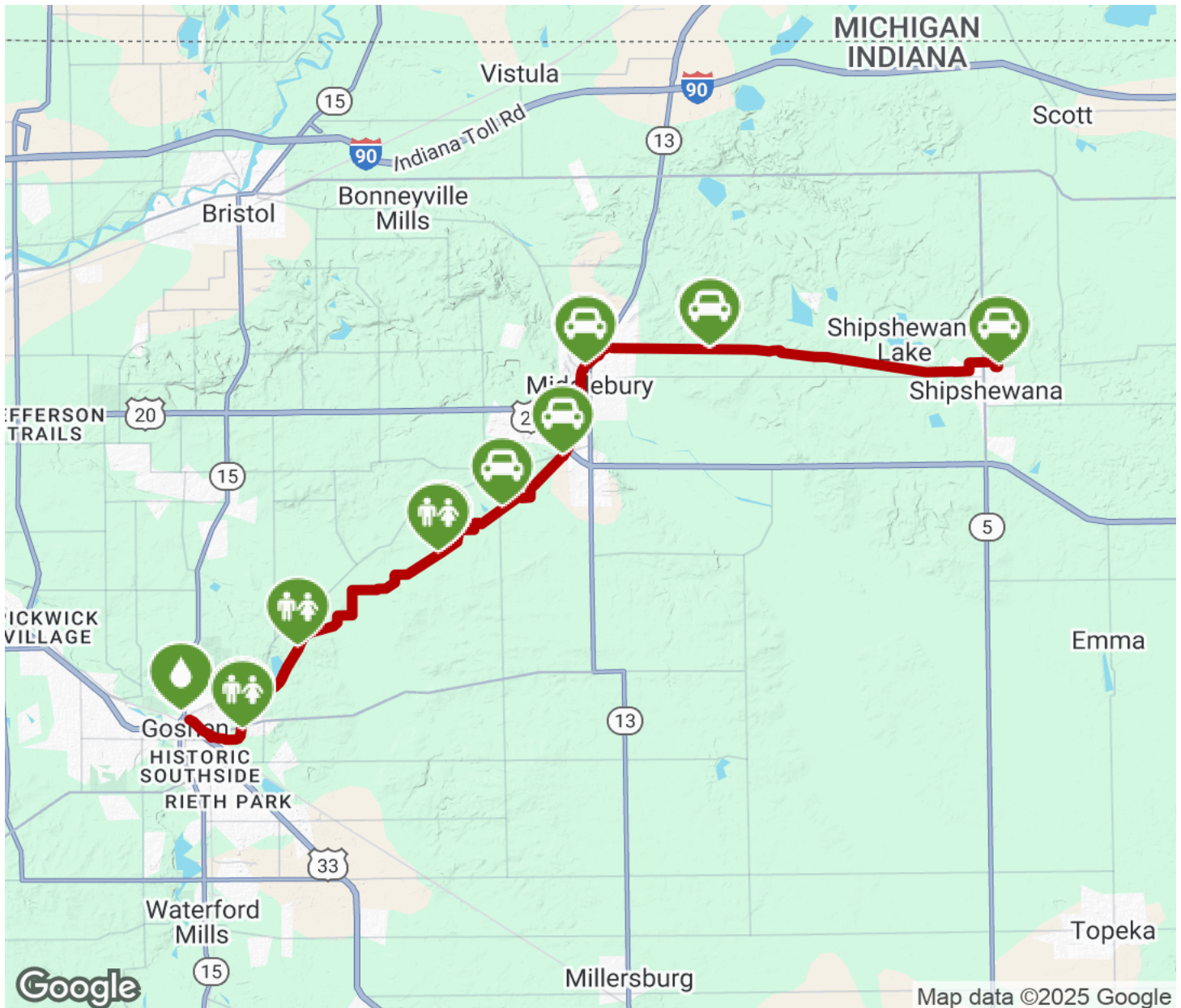
- Abshire Park, 1302 E Lincoln Ave (Goshen)
- Mill Street Park, 212 Prospect Ave (Goshen)
- Krider "World's Fair" Garden, 302 Bristol Ave (Middlebury)

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



# Pumpkinvine Nature Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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

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