



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Lake  
Wobegon  
Trail**  
*Minnesota*



# Lake Wobegon Trail

Minnesota

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As fans of public radio can tell you, the Lake Wobegon Trail's namesake is the fictional town of Lake Wobegon, made famous by author and radio personality Garrison Keillor of *A Prairie Home Companion*. Along the 10-foot-wide paved trail, you'll find small towns that provided Keillor with inspiration, including Holdingford, a town once referred to by Keillor as "most Wobegonic" and which now advertises itself as "The Gateway to Lake Wobegon." Keillor helped dedicate the trail upon its opening in 1998, and he even composed a song for the occasion, appropriately titled "Lake Wobegon Trail."

The trail rests on an inactive Burlington Northern Railroad corridor between the cities of Osakis and St. Joseph. Along the path, which is dotted by trailheads and parking access areas, trail users are treated to scenic

views of prairie remnants, lakes, woodlands, and open farmland. In fact, Stearns County is the top dairy producer in Minnesota. Much of the trail parallels busy I-94, making it a safe alternative for nonmotorized travel in the heart of Minnesota.

## About the Route

Not far from the Avon trailhead is St. John's University, situated on more than 2,000 wooded acres that hold hiking trails and lakes. An extension of the Lake Wobegon Trail north from the city of Albany takes trail users to Holdingford, which features the longest covered bridge in Minnesota.

Beyond Holdingford, the rail trail continues even farther north to the Stearns--Morrison county line at 450th Street, adding another 13 miles of paved trail with this northern extension. Here, the Soo Line Recreational Trail begins, offering an additional 10.5 miles of paved trail to US 10 just north of Royalton. Ultimately, intrepid recreationists can travel uninterrupted on off-road trails north all the way to Duluth, a distance of more than 150 miles.

## Connections

At the Morrison County Line at 450th St, there is a connection with the [Soo Line Trail \(Southern Route\)](#).

The Lake Wobegon Trail's western end in Osakis offers a seamless connection to the 55-mile [Central Lakes State Trail](#). These combined trails give users 120 miles of uninterrupted pavement from St. Joseph to Fergus Falls.



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**States:** Minnesota

**Counties:** Stearns, Todd

Length: 65.8 miles

**Trail end points:** 1st Ave. E (Osakis) to Waite Park Baseball Complex, 458 Great Oak Dr. (Waite Park)

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Bike, Fishing, Mountain

Biking, Inline

Skating, Snowmobiling, Walking, Wheelchair

## Parking & Trail Access

The Lake Wobegon Trail runs between the Central Lakes State Trail (Osakis) and Waite Park Baseball Complex, 458 Great Oak Dr. (Waite Park), with parking available on both ends.

Parking is also available at:

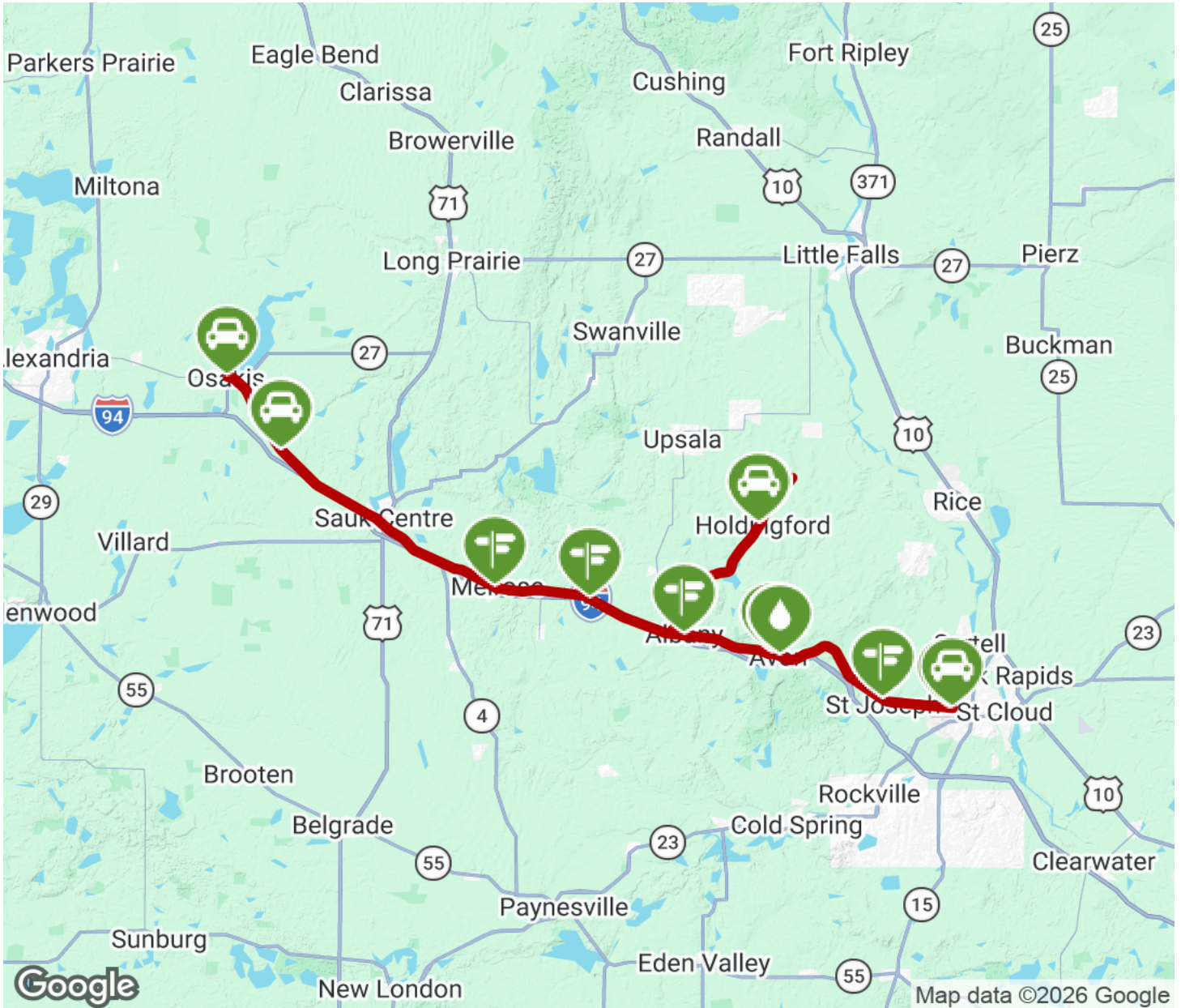
- 453637 Co Rd. 9 (Avon)

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



# Lake Wobegon Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



**TrailLink**  
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