



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Luce Line
Trail**
Minnesota



Luce Line Trail

Minnesota

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Overview

The Luce Line Trail leads between Minnesota's rural landscapes and urban Minneapolis, traveling through suburbs and wooded stretches, across wetlands, near lakes, through tallgrass prairie remnants, and into the countryside over varying surfaces. Between Plymouth and Winsted, the trail has a limestone surface with a parallel treadway for equestrians. Between Winsted and Hutchinson, the trail is paved for about 19 miles; between Hutchinson and Cedar Mills it is crushed granite; and between Cedar Mills and Cosmos, the trail is composed of mowed grass. Snowmobiles are allowed on the trail west of Stubb's Bay Road in Maple Plain.

Certain areas are not maintained regularly and can be a

challenge following instances of severe weather when the surface becomes muddy or otherwise impassable. Wildlife encountered along the way may include deer, foxes, minks, owls, pheasants, and many species of duck and geese. From Hutchinson westward, the Big Woods's eastern forests give way to remnants of the tallgrass prairie, with many prairie plants still visible along the trail.

About the Route

The 63-mile western section is called the Luce Line "State" Trail and is managed by the Minnesota DNR. This section leaves off from its western terminus at Thompson Lake. The trail heads east through the town of Cedars and then reenters its rural corridor as it passes by the Cedar Mills Waterfowl Production Area. Quite a lot of this western route follows MN-22.

Along its route, the trail passes by Otter Lake, the town of Hutchinson, Silver Lake, and more. In the town of Winsted, there is a brief break in the off-road trail route that is easily manageable. East of Winsted, the trail skirts a number of lakes including the famous Minnetonka, Oak Lake, Long Lake, and Rice Lake.

The 9-mile section of paved trail between the Plymouth and Golden Valley in the western suburbs of the city and the Theodore Wirth Regional Park is part of the Three Rivers Park District trail system, and that segment is designated as the Luce Line "Regional" Trail. Along the route, Medicine Lake forms the backdrop to wooden bridges that overlook the Bassett Creek marshlands.

As trail users enter Theodore Wirth Regional Park, the path becomes part of the Minneapolis Grand Rounds Scenic Byway trail network, and the view expands to include the skyline of downtown Minneapolis. From here the trail heads east through Bryn Mawr Meadows Park where the trail reaches its eastern endpoint.



Luce Line Trail

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States: Minnesota

Counties: Carver, Hennepin, McLeod, Meeker

Length: 76.7 miles

Trail end points: 143-185 W Astro Blvd (Cosmos) to North Cedar Lake Regional Trail (Minneapolis)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Crushed Stone, Grass

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Fishing, Wheelchair

Accessible, Horseback Riding, Mountain

Parking & Trail Access

The Luce Line Trail runs between 143-185 W Astro Blvd (Cosmos), where parking is available, and North Cedar Lake Regional Trail (Minneapolis).

Parking is also available at:

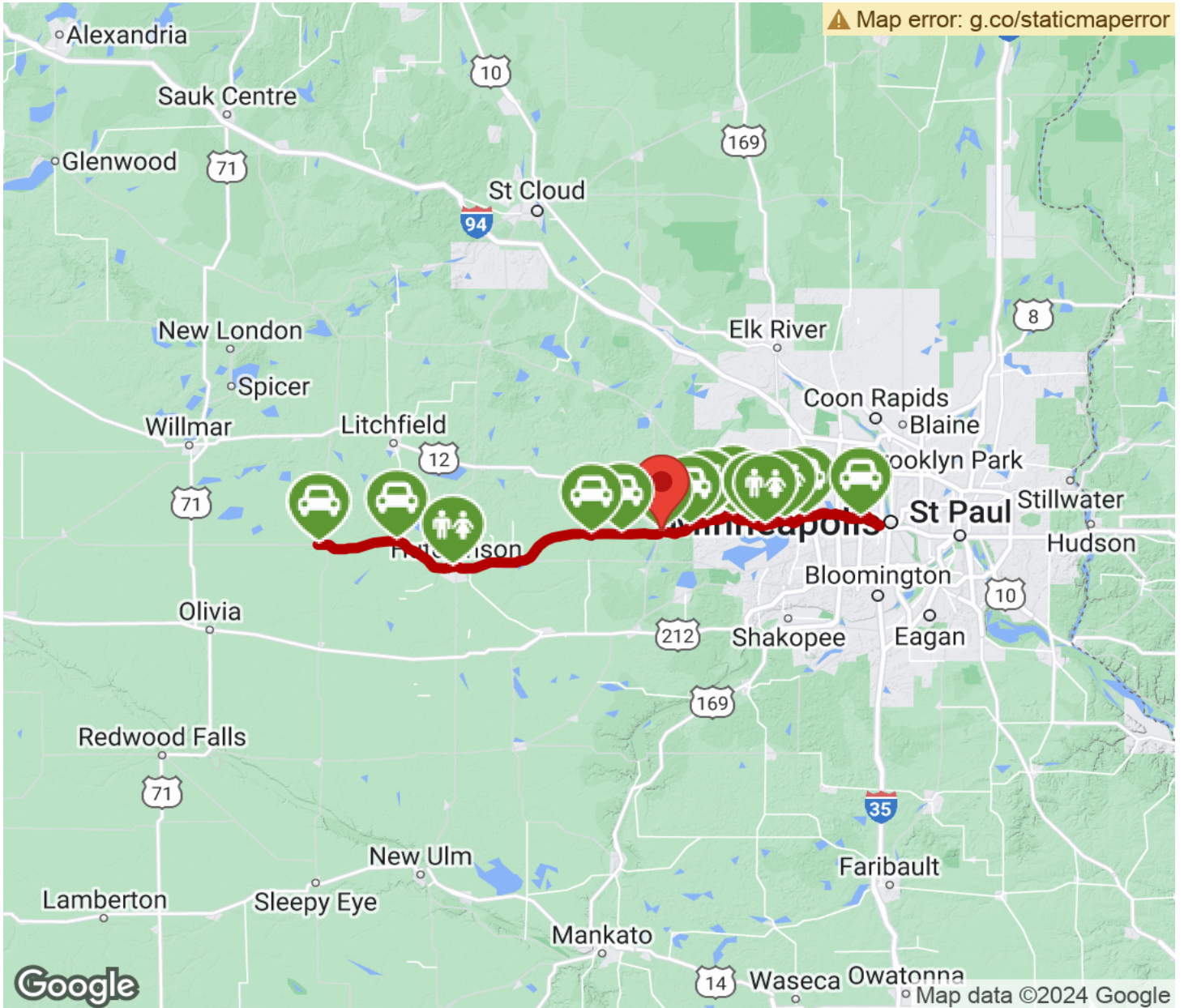
- Riverside Jaycee Park, 300 Les Kouba Pkwy NW (Hutchinson)
- 3620 Eileen St (Maple Plain)
- 631 Ottawa Ave N (Golden Valley)

See TrailLink Map for all parking options and detailed directions.



Luce Line Trail

Minnesota



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com