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East Branch Trail (PA) Pennsylvania



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The East Branch Trail is a rare dual-lane rail-trail. The 8foot asphalt lane serves walkers, bicyclists, in-line skaters, and people in wheelchairs. Horses, specifically horses pulling Amish buggies to and from markets in Spartansburg, use the adjacent 8-foot gravel path.

The Amish community in this part of Crawford County is quite large, comprising nine communities. Spartansburg, at the center of the trail, has also become a center for the sale of Amish furniture, country crafts, and baked goods. When encountering Amish on the trail, in accordance with their preference, please refrain from taking photos.

About the Route

The East Branch Trail has two sections—5.2 miles in

Spartansburg and 2.3 miles running between Titusville and Hydetown.

Spartansburg

The northern section in Spartansburg has a gap near its southern end, where the Sportsmans Road Bridge over the East Branch Clear Creek is closed. This splits the route into 4.4 miles from the northern end on PA-89 south to the bridge closure and 0.8 miles from the southern end on northeast to the bridge closure.

From the northern end on PA-89, the trail head south and follows the western edge of Clear Lake. The man-made lake is popular for fishing from the shore or boats. Near the southern end of the lake, the trail passes Clear Lake Park, which has parking available. An old railroad trestle crosses over the dam to the family-owned Clear Lake Lumber.

Continuing south, the trail passes through Spartansburg, crossing Main Street. Note that several stores in town feature Amish furniture and other artifacts, and several restaurants are noted for Pennsylvania Dutch cuisine. The first week of September is devoted to the community fair.

This is Amish farm country, and many inhabitants eschew modern conveniences. No electric or telephone wires are strung to the houses, where you'll see laundry drying in the breeze and cords of wood stacked for the stove and winter heating.

Heading southwest out of Spartansburg, the trail follows East Branch Oil Creek and crosses SR 89. The southern end is an out-and-back because of the bridge closure.

The 0.8 mile section can be accessed at its northern end from Sportsman Road. This provides access to the trail just south of the bridge closure. Continuing to curve gently southwest, the southern end of this portion is on Glynden Road.



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States: Pennsylvania Counties: Crawford Length: 7.9miles Trail end points: PA-89 to Glynden Rd (Spartansburg) to Titusville to Hydetown Trail surfaces: Asphalt,Crushed Stone,Gravel Trail category: Rail-Trail Trail activities: Bike,Inline Skating,Fishing,Wheelchair Accessible,Horseback Riding,Walking,Cross Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

The East Branch Trail runs 5.2 miles in Spartansburg and 2.3 miles between Titusville and Hydetown.

The Spartansburg section has a few parking options. There are two parking spaces at the northern end of the Spartansburg section. One is an accessible space. Additional parking is available by Clear Lake Park and where the trail crosses PA-89 south of Spartansburg.

The Hydetown section has two public parking areas on Main Street south of the southern end of the trail. There is a parking area by a ball park on Main Street, 0.4 miles south of the trail's southern end. There is a sidewalk along the north side of Main Street with signs leading to the East Branch Trail. Hasbrouck Park has a parking area 0.6 miles south of the trail's southern end.

Visit the <u>TrailLink map</u> for all options and detailed directions.



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