



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



Bugline Trail (Route of the Badger)

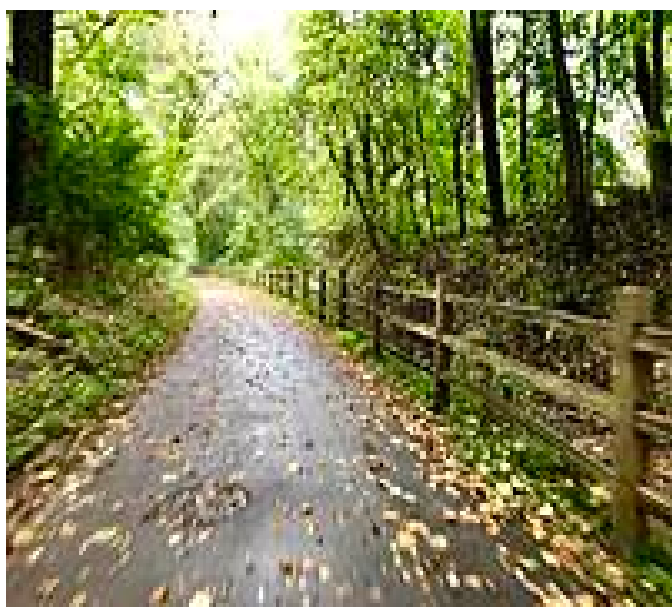
Wisconsin



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Wisconsin

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Broad blue skies strung with white cloud wisps; gem-green fields harboring cattails and butterflies; canopied glens giving way to cavernous quarries. It's all part of the ride on the 17.42-mile Bugline Recreation Trail in and around Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, just 20 miles northwest of Milwaukee. The trail is fully paved end-to-end.

About the Route

The western end of the Bugline Trail leaves off from the small town of North Lake, where it also crosses the National Ice Age Scenic Trail. From here, the trail heads east and passes through Merton Pollworth and Fireman's Parks.

An active railroad runs adjacent to the trail through several miles of prairie and farmland. Keep a lookout for gopher holes at the edge of the trail; they can make for a suddenly bumpy ride. The view here is of peaceful farmland and small prairies of Joe-Pye weed, sunflowers, and swamp thistle. Red barns and silver silos dot the landscape. When a light breeze gathers over the fields, it carries the quintessential country aroma of wildflowers and farm animals.

Just past Sussex, there is a short rail-trail spur that leads to Menomonee Park, the site of the stone quarrying that was this area's significant industry from 1880 to 1900. Today, remnants from that time remain in Menomonee Park, including an old stone crusher and a public swimming beach at the now-flooded quarry. Before reaching Menomonee Falls, the trail dips into a forest of forked burr oak and linden trees.

The trail comes to its eastern end in a tranquil residential area of Menomonee Falls. Residents in one-story ramblers have fashioned makeshift trail-access points all along the Bugline, and you'll be sharing the trail with local walkers, hikers, bikers, and runners who flock to this recreation corridor.

Connections

The Bugline Trail is part of the Route of the Badger, a developing trail network in Greater Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



Bugline Trail (Route of the Badger)

Wisconsin

States: Wisconsin

Counties: Waukesha

Length: 17.42miles

Trail end points: Hartman Rd. (Hartland) to
Water St. (Menomonee Falls)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Horseback
Riding, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

The Bugline Trail runs between Hartman Rd. (Hartland) and Water St. (Menomonee Falls), where parking is available.

Parking is also available at:

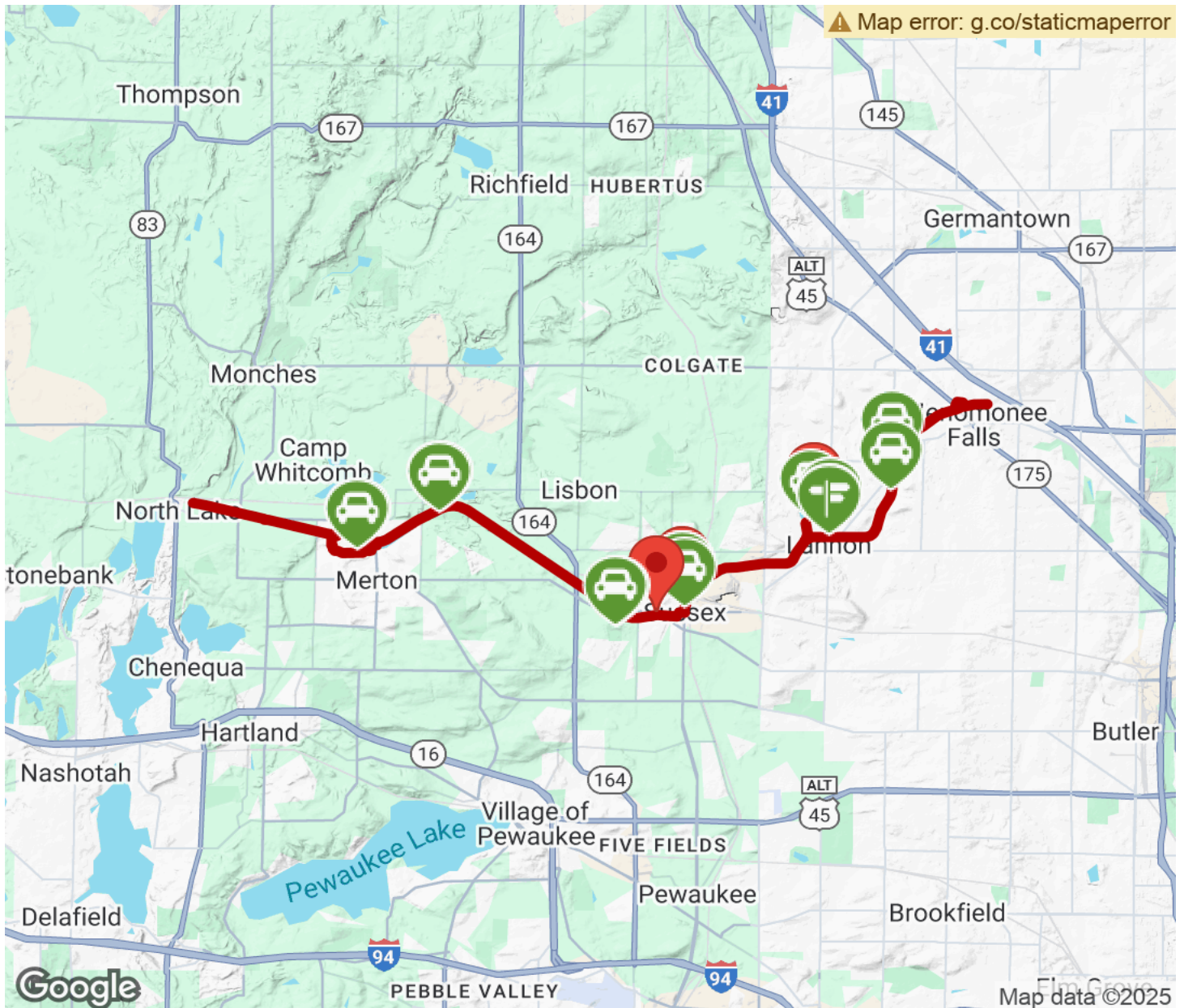
- Lannon Village Park, 7461 N Lannon Rd (Lannon)

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



Bugline Trail (Route of the Badger)

Wisconsin



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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