



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



Monadnock Recreational Rail Trail

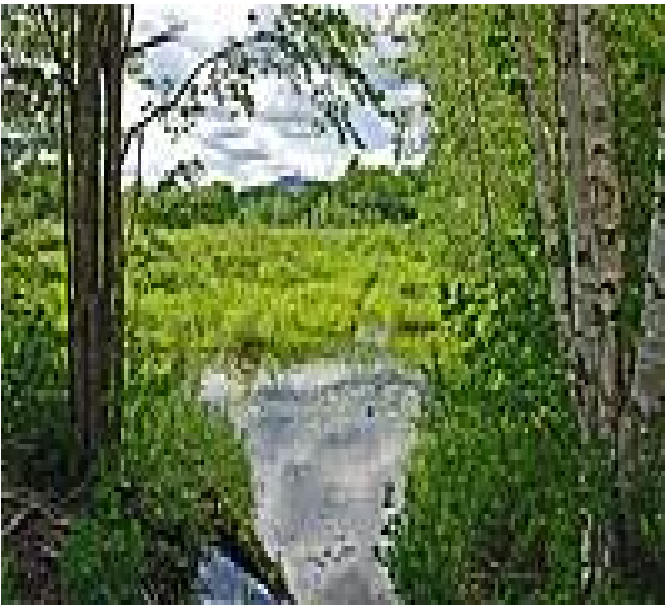
New Hampshire



Monadnock Recreational Rail Trail

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The Monadnock Recreational Rail Trail is a great example of a repurposed rail route that provides safe commuting opportunities while also allowing trail users to escape into forest environments for some peace and respite.

About the Route

Leaving in the north from the American Legion Post ball field on Webster Street in Jaffrey, the paved trail winds its way south where crosswalks provide access to the unofficial entry point after Stratton Road, which is complete with a Rails-to-Trails sign and information kiosk. From here, the route becomes more serene as the pavement ends near another public ball field. A pleasant sitting area with a bench by the Contoocook River is located just 0.2 mile from here. Note: The 1½ mi marker

denotes the distance remaining until the Jaffrey–Rindge town line.

For the next 0.75 mile, the trail skirts the west boundary of Children’s Woods (28 acres) and Carey Park (100 acres), both owned by the town of Jaffrey and preserved for the study and enjoyment of the region’s natural history. Blazed trails lead directly from the rail-trail.

Heading farther south takes trail users through the wetlands on the western edge of Contoocook Lake and over a large wooden bridge that offers beautiful sweeping views of the lake and its wildlife. In the summer, trail users can enjoy the smell of pine trees and wildflowers. In spring, be on the lookout for turtles hatching on the sandy banks; they may decide to scurry over to the other side of the marsh.

Rounding the bend to the right, trail will pass from Jaffrey into Rindge, where the trail is known as the Rindge Rail Trail and the Jack Dupree Memorial Trail. Here, at County Road, there is a public boat launch that offers plenty of parking and access to the lake. Shortly thereafter, the trail enters the Contoocook Marsh Conservation Area, which offers a small trail loop and benches to enjoy the scenery and wildlife at the wetland’s edge.

From here to the southern endpoint, the trail becomes more challenging with a dirt and grass surface, and a hybrid or mountain bike is recommended. Passing through West Rindge, the trail becomes much narrower; if you are on a bicycle, keep to the left, as narrow wooden ties still mark the old route.

The next 3.5 miles from State Route 119 offer a serene experience year-round; however, note that the 0.9-mile section between Perkins Road and Rand Road is relatively low-lying and particularly prone to flooding. A sign indicates that the trail is closed to all use in the muddy season. If flooding does occur, trail users may be forced to detour onto



Monadnock Recreational Rail Trail

New Hampshire

States: New Hampshire

Counties: Cheshire

Length: 7.5miles

Trail end points: Webster St. (Jaffrey) to NH-MA state line

Trail surfaces: Asphalt,Gravel

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Horseback Riding,Mountain Biking,Snowmobiling,Walking,Cross Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

The Monadnock Recreational Rail Trail runs between Webster St. (Jaffrey), where parking is available, and the NH-MA state line.

Parking is also available at:

- Perkins Rd.
- Rand Rd.
- Woods Crossing Rd.

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



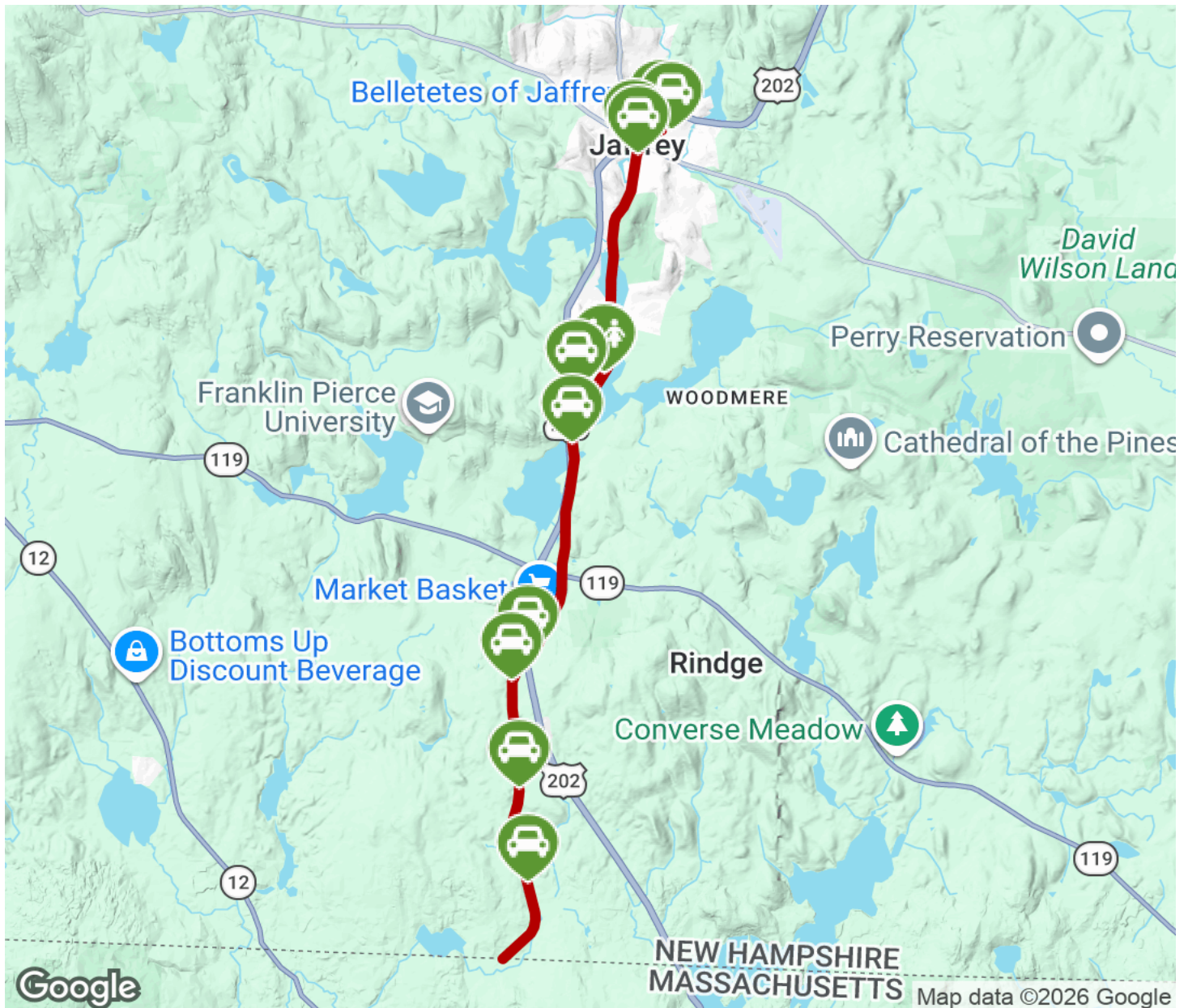
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Monadnock Recreational Rail Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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