



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides   



**Cumberland
Valley Rail
Trail**
Pennsylvania



Cumberland Valley Rail Trail

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The Cumberland Valley Rail Trail rolls 15.8 miles through a bucolic valley that's hemmed in by the Blue and South Mountains in south-central Pennsylvania. Running from Shippensburg to east of Newville, with 2-mile segment in the village of Greason and a 1-mile segment in Carlisle, the trail will eventually extend seamlessly all the way to Carlisle, the county seat, for a distance of 20 miles. The pathway is part of the September 11th National Memorial Trail that connects the World Trade Center, Flight 93, and Pentagon Memorials.

About the Route

The path is mostly crushed limestone, though sections in Shippensburg and Newville are asphalt, as are numerous road crossings along the way. The trail is open dawn–dusk,

and bicyclists are required to wear helmets. Also, equestrians must keep to the grass alongside the trail, except at road crossings.

If starting at the trail's southern end in Shippensburg, visit the railroad museum in an old boxcar at the trailhead. Or take advantage of several restaurants and diners located near Shippensburg University. For history buffs, a dozen Civil War and agricultural history signs are posted along the route. Shippensburg, settled in 1730, was the first community in the Cumberland Valley and was home to a fort during the French and Indian War. Three blocks from the trailhead in downtown, which was occupied by Confederate forces, Civil War historical markers are common.

Leaving town, the route passes the Shippensburg University campus and arrive at another trailhead at Shippensburg Township Community Park in 1 mile. The trail is wooded for the next 2 miles and then opens up for wide-ranging views of farms and pastureland on the way to Newville. You might see an Amish family with a horse and buggy as the route crosses roads along the way. Also, the trail council is known for employing goats to consume invasive weeds growing along the path.

At 6.3 miles, the trail passes through Oakville, a stop on the Cumberland Valley Railroad and now a shady picnic spot. The Newville trailhead is in another 3.8 miles, after which the route passes the borough of Newville on the south side. For a bite to eat, turn left onto Big Spring Road and head a few blocks into the old downtown, settled in 1790, where there is a diner and pizzeria. The path then continues another 1.7 miles to its northern endpoint on Green Hill Road.

A 2-mile section of trail runs northeast from Springview Rd in the village of Greason.

A 1-mile section of trail also runs west from Allen Road in Carlisle through trees and farmland. Plans call for connecting



Cumberland Valley Rail Trail

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States: Pennsylvania

Counties: Cumberland

Length: 15.8 miles

Trail end points: Allen Rd (Carlisle) to Green Hill Rd (Newville)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Concrete, Crushed Stone

Trail category: Rail-Trail

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

Parking & Trail Access

The Cumberland Valley Rail Trail runs between the intersection of W Fort St & N Earl St (Shippensburg) and Green Hill Rd (Newville) with short sections in Greason and in Carlisle.

Parking is available at:

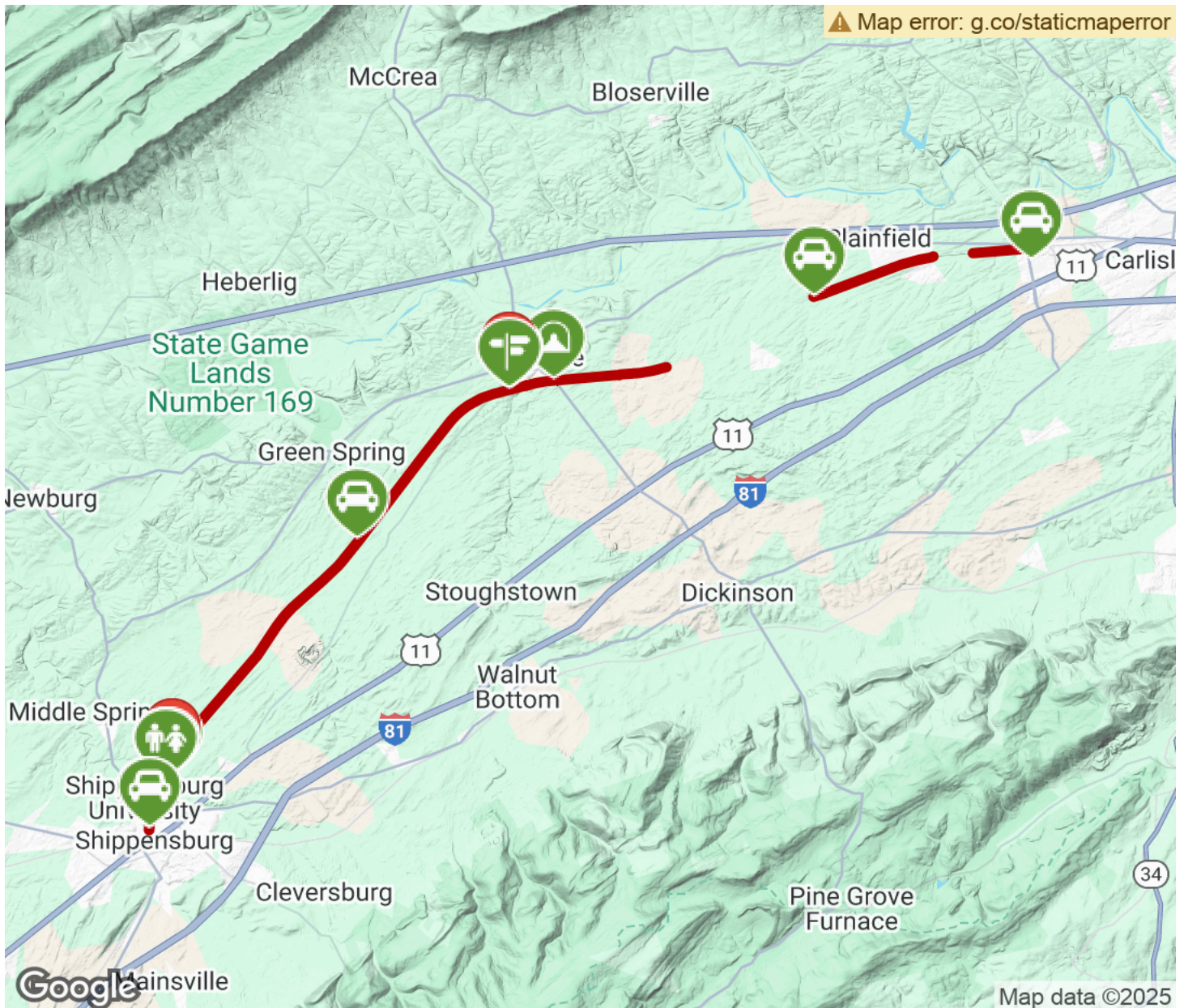
- Newville Trailhead, 23 McFarland St (Newville)
- Oakville Trailhead, 401 Oakville Rd (Shippensburg)

Visit the [TrailLink map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



Cumberland Valley Rail Trail

Pennsylvania



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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