



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



Deckers Creek Rail-Trail

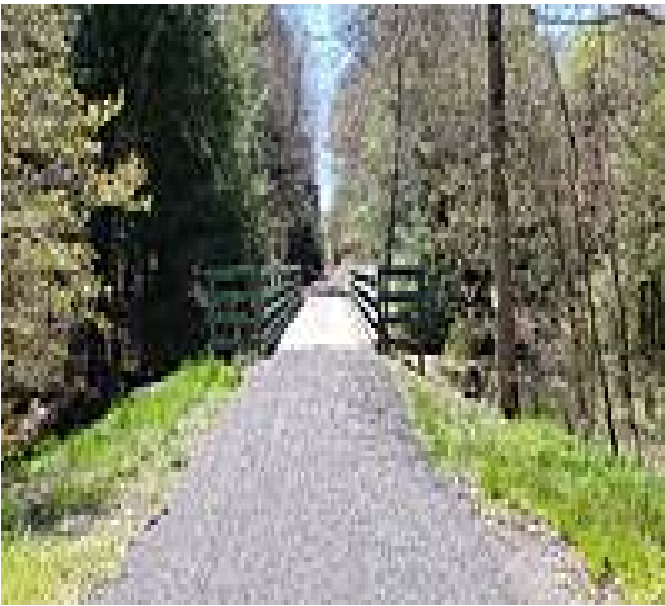
West Virginia



Deckers Creek Rail-Trail

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Overview

Morgantown is known as the home of West Virginia University, the inspiration for a Joni Mitchell song, and the birthplace of Don Knotts. But it's also known for its extensive rail-trail system along the Monongahela River—one of a few American rivers that flows north—and its tributaries.

The 19-mile Deckers Creek Trail is the gem of the system. Beginning at the confluence of the Monongahela River and Deckers Creek in downtown Morgantown, the trail is one of the main attractions of Hazel Ruby McQuain Riverfront Park. Located adjacent to a restored railway station, the park is the nexus of the trail system and a vibrant hub of local activity, with a steady stream of

walkers, runners, skaters, and cyclists.

About the Route

From the northern end of the trail in Morgantown, the Deckers Creek Trail stretches 19 miles to the southeast along a former rail corridor, paralleling Deckers Creek and State Route 7 to slightly west of the small town of Reedsville in Preston County. The northernmost 2.5 miles of the trail are paved, passing through the urban landscape of Morgantown. The trail provides easy access to Marilla Park, a city park with a playground, swimming pool, and tennis courts, as well as neighboring restaurants and food stores. After passing under Interstate 68, the surface changes to crushed stone.

The trail gains 1,000 feet as it climbs out of the Monongahela River valley and enters a rural landscape distinguished by hemlock, rhododendrons, and a smattering of residences. But the most memorable feature of the surrounding landscape is Deckers Creek itself. Because of the steady grade, the trail passes a series of dramatic rapids and waterfalls, while the creek noisily rushes headlong toward the Monongahela. Highly experienced kayakers paddle Deckers Creek, which has some Class VI rapids, and rock climbing are also popular in the region. The trail also provides a close-up view of Greer Limestone, an active quarry business.

As the trail approaches its endpoint near Reedsville, the grade flattens and the woods give way to wetland areas that feature cattails and red-winged blackbirds. Less than 1 mile away on State Route 92 is the Arthurdale Heritage District and Museum. The entire community of Arthurdale is on the National Register of Historic Places, recognized as the first of several planned communities created under President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal program.

Connections

The [Caperton Trail](#) meets the Deckers Creek Rail Trail at the



Deckers Creek Rail-Trail

West Virginia

States: West Virginia

Counties: Monongalia, Preston

Length: 19 miles

Trail end points: Hazel Ruby McQuain Riverfront Park, 185 Garrett St. (Morgantown) to Morgan Mine Rd. (Reedsville)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Crushed Stone

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Fishing, Wheelchair

Accessible, Walking, Cross Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

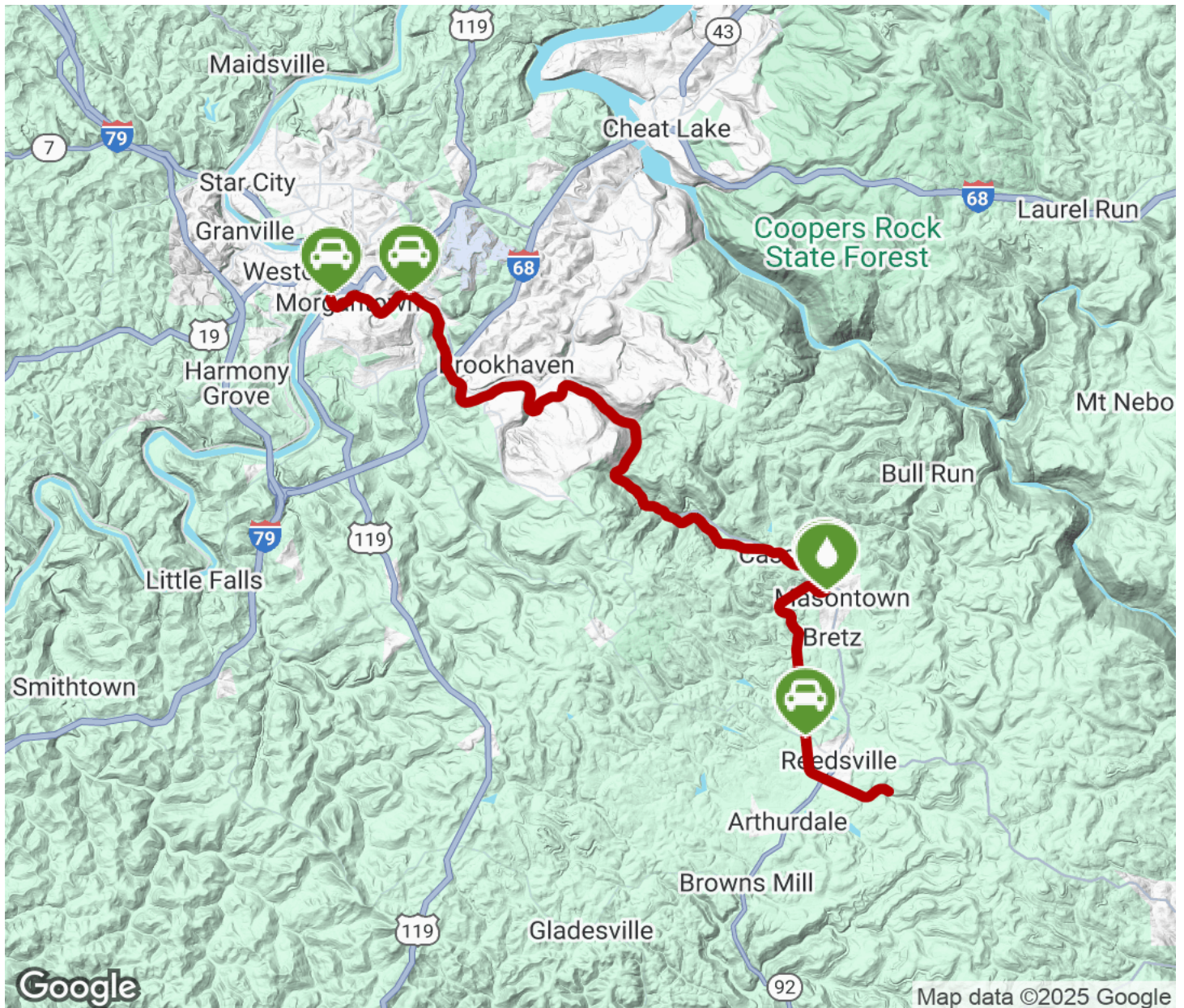
The Deckers Creek Rail-Trail runs between Hazel Ruby McQuain Riverfront Park, 185 Garrett St. (Morgantown), where parking is available, and Morgan Mine Rd. (Reedsville).

There is additional parking available along the route, but without official trail addresses. Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



Deckers Creek Rail-Trail

West Virginia



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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