



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



Sligo Creek Trail

Maryland



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The bustling D.C. metro area seems light-years away from the parklands bordering the Sligo Creek Trail in the Maryland suburbs



The bustling D.C. metro area seems light-years away from the parklands bordering the Sligo Creek Trail in the Maryland suburbs northeast of the city. The paved stream-valley trail follows the meandering creek for about 9.4 miles from its junction with the [Northwest Branch Trail](#) in Hyattsville in Prince George's County to the town of Wheaton in Montgomery County.

About the Route

Named for the creek it follows, the Sligo Creek Trail is just one arm of the 40-mile [Anacostia Tributary Trail System](#). That trail network starts in Hyattsville where the tidal Anacostia River splits into the Northwest and Northeast Branches, each with its corresponding creekside trail. The trail corridors run through parkland that the Maryland-

National Capital Park and Planning Commission started acquiring in the 1930s.

The Sligo Creek Trail begins where it splits off from the Northwest Branch Trail at the confluence of Sligo Creek and Northwest Branch of Anacostia River in Hyattsville. The playing fields at Green Meadows Park are the first of many the trail passes as it heads northwest.

Throughout the trail, be aware of side trails that can carry you off the main trail and into nearby neighborhoods. Also, activate the flashing lights for pedestrian crosswalks at the Riggs Road and East-West Highway crossings.

The trail enters Montgomery County just before New Hampshire Avenue and begins long passages through woodland, where occasional small bridges cross the creek. Heading north, you may notice low dams crossing the creek. Some mark the locations of old gristmills, and one was part of Takoma Park's public drinking-water system until the 1930s.

Commuters can use the winding 8-foot-wide trail from 5 a.m. to mid-night, although general hours are sunrise to sunset. Dozens of picnic tables and benches allow recreational users to relax and watch deer browsing in the woody sections or herons stealthily fishing in the creek.

The two-lane Sligo Creek Parkway runs alongside the trail most of the way through Montgomery County until the trail crosses University Boulevard/MD 193. The narrow trail gets crowded on the weekends with walkers, joggers, and bicyclists, so two sections of the parkway are closed to motor vehicles from 9 a.m. Friday to 6 p.m. Sunday. One stretches from Old Carroll Avenue to Piney Branch Road in Takoma Park; the other is from Forest Glen Road in Forest Glen to University Boulevard West in Wheaton.

The trail ends in a residential area about 0.4 mile from a pedestrian entrance to the 530-acre Wheaton Regional Park,



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States: Maryland

Counties: Montgomery, Prince Georges

Length: 9.4 miles

Trail end points: Arcola Local Park (11501 Channing Dr, Silver Spring) to Northwest Branch Trail at Nicholson St (Hyattsville)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike, Fishing, Inline Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

The Sligo Creek Trail runs between Arcola Local Park, 11501 Channing Dr (Silver Spring) and the Northwest Branch Trail (Hyattsville).

Parking is available at:

- Sligo-Dennis Avenue Local Park, 10200 Sligo Creek Pkwy (Silver Spring)
- Sligo Creek Stream Valley Park, 8101 Sligo Creek Pkwy (Takoma Park)
- Green Meadows Park, 6301 Sligo Pkwy (Hyattsville)

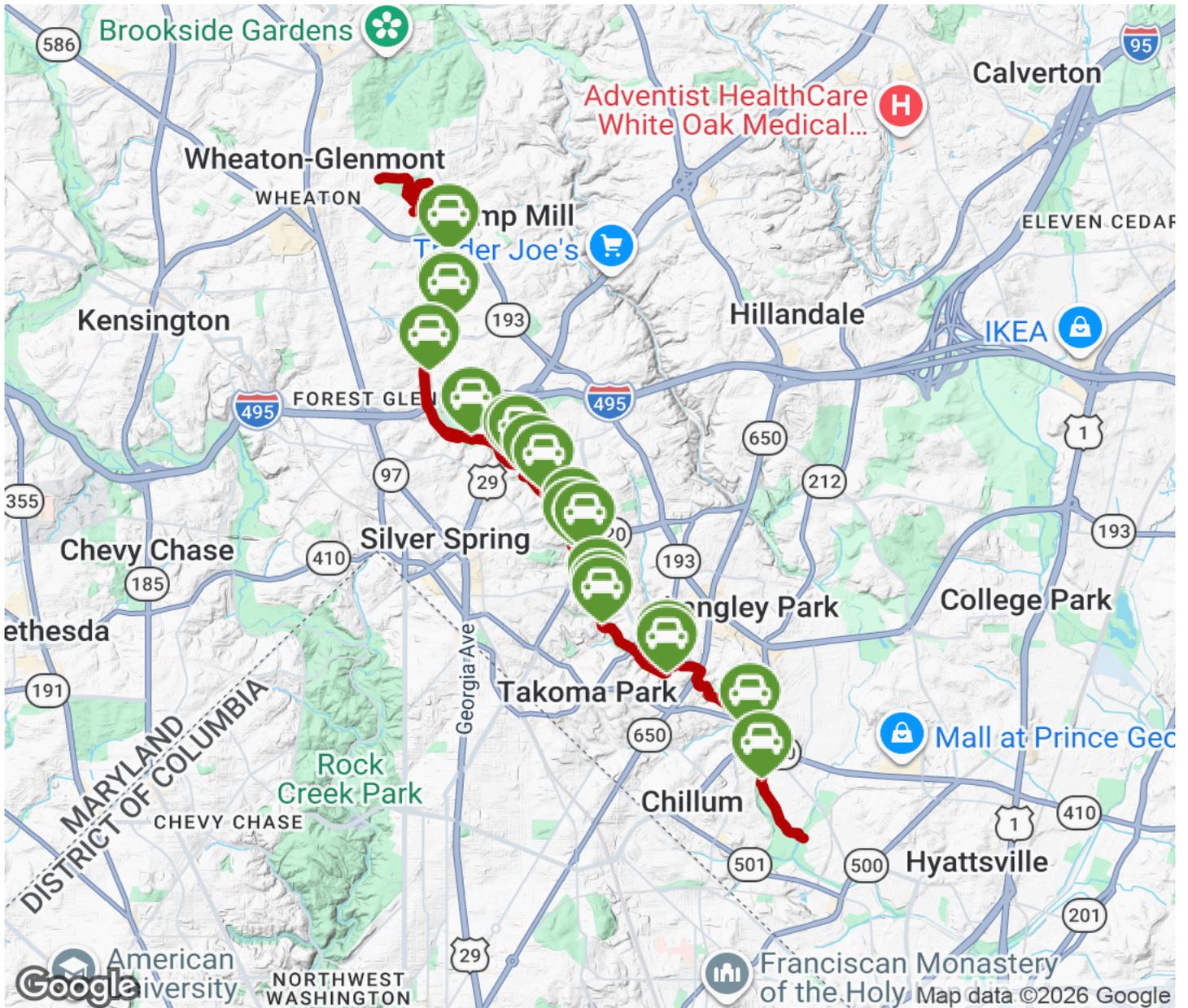
Montgomery County's public transit system provides access to the trail.

There are numerous parking options along the route, please visit the [TrailLink map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



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- Trailhead
- Restroom
- Parking
- Water Fountain
- Tunnel