



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Cape Fear
River Trail**
North Carolina



Cape Fear River Trail

North Carolina

The Cape Fear River Trail winds for 7 miles through a mix of woodlands and marshes on Fayetteville's north side, offering



visitors can go on guided walks with rangers and naturalists, stop for a picnic, or simply enjoy the views (including a waterfall). There's a primitive campground, too (overnight stays are permitted, but there is no electricity and only cold showers). The park's trailhead was named in honor of Moses Mathis, known locally as the "Bicycle Man" for his two decades of work running youth enrichment programs, including providing bikes to children in need; a memorial plaque allows visitors the opportunity to learn more about this inspirational person.

Connections

The Cape Fear River Trail is part of the developing East Coast Greenway, a 3,000-mile route between Florida and Maine.

The Cape Fear River Trail winds for 7 miles through a mix of woodlands and marshes on Fayetteville's north side, offering stunning views of the Cape Fear River.

About the Route

The trail is relatively flat but with some hills. Trail users will encounter boardwalks and bridges, even one covered bridge. Wildlife abounds here: frogs, lizards, and deer are all common sights. Interpretive signage educates trail users about the local flora and fauna, including more than 700 species of plant and tree and 150 species of bird.

At its southern end is Clark Park Nature Center, a recreational gem offering both educational displays and live animals (snakes, turtles, and alligators!). Here,



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States: North Carolina

Counties: Cumberland

Length: 7miles

Trail end points: 498 Treetop Dr. (Fayetteville)
to Riverside Dog Park, 555 N Eastern Blvd.
(Fayetteville)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Boardwalk

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Fishing, Inline
Skating, Walking

Parking & Trail Access

The Cape Fear River Trail runs between 498 Treetop Dr. (Fayetteville) and Riverside Dog Park, 555 N Eastern Blvd. (Fayetteville), with parking available at both ends.

Parking is also available at:

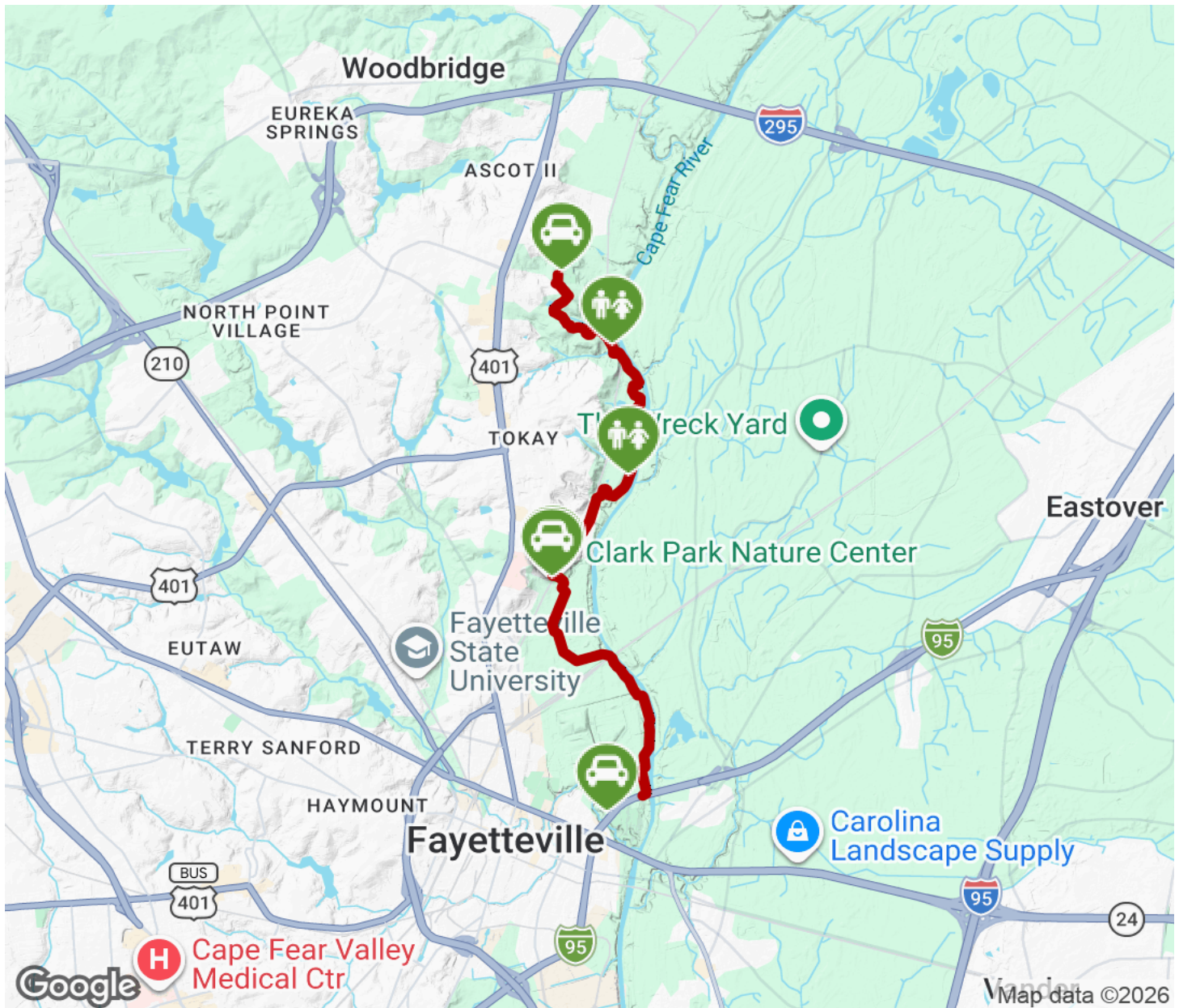
- Clark Park Nature Center, 631 Sherman Dr. (Fayetteville)

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



Cape Fear River Trail

North Carolina



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com