



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Moraine Hills
State Park
Trail**
Illinois



Moraine Hills State Park Trail

Illinois

Moraine Hills State Park Trail offers a wonderful experience for any geology or nature aficionado. A moraine is an accumulation of



connect it directly to service areas, all with parking, restrooms, water fountains and picnic tables. The long and more narrow loop sections of the trail are marked for one-way transit of bikers and skiers. The trail goes through dense woods and wide open spaces. There are lots of mostly short, but sometimes steep, hills along the trail. All for making even more welcome those moments of rest and viewing the scenery.

Moraine Hills State Park Trail offers a wonderful experience for any geology or nature aficionado. A moraine is an accumulation of earth and stones carried and finally deposited by a glacier. Throughout the park, one can see the glacial till, as well as lakes, marshes, pot-holes and bogs -- all formed by the Wisconsin glacier's ice and meltwater. For those who want to learn even more of the park's history and ecology, there are interpretive boardwalks, walking trails, and a nature center at Lake Defiance and Pike Mash. There is abundant wildlife throughout the park, and special viewing platforms and signs along the trail. It has its westernmost trailhead right at the picturesque McHenry lock and dam on the Fox River. Fishing is allowed there and at Lake Defiance.

There are eight short spurs off the eastern trail loops to



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States: Illinois

Counties: McHenry

Length: 11.4 miles

Trail end points: Charles J. Miller Rd. and S. River Rd. to S. Lily Lake Rd. and W. Wegner Rd.

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Crushed Stone

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike, Fishing, Walking, Cross Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

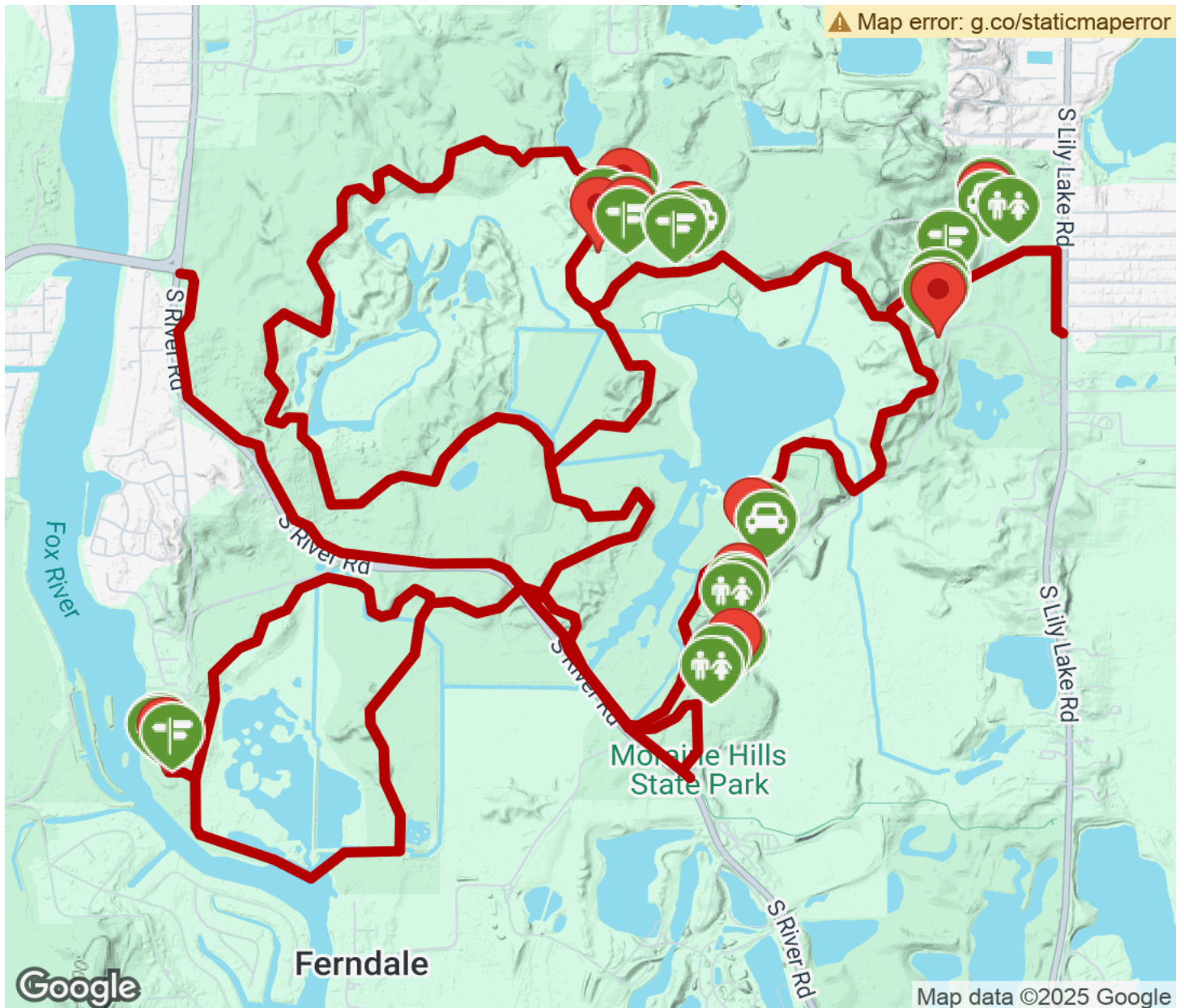
From State Route 120, turn south onto Chapel Hill Road or River Road and proceed about 0.75 mile until the two roads come together and continue south as River Road. From the junction, go 2.5 miles and turn left into the park entrance.

From SR 31, turn east onto Charles J. Miller Road and proceed 1.3 miles to River Road. Turn right onto River Road, go 1.7 miles and turn left into the park entrance.



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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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