



2026

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:** Moraine Hills State Park to  
Moraine Hills State Park

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt, Crushed Stone

**Trail category:** Greenway/Non-RT

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

## Parking & Trail Access

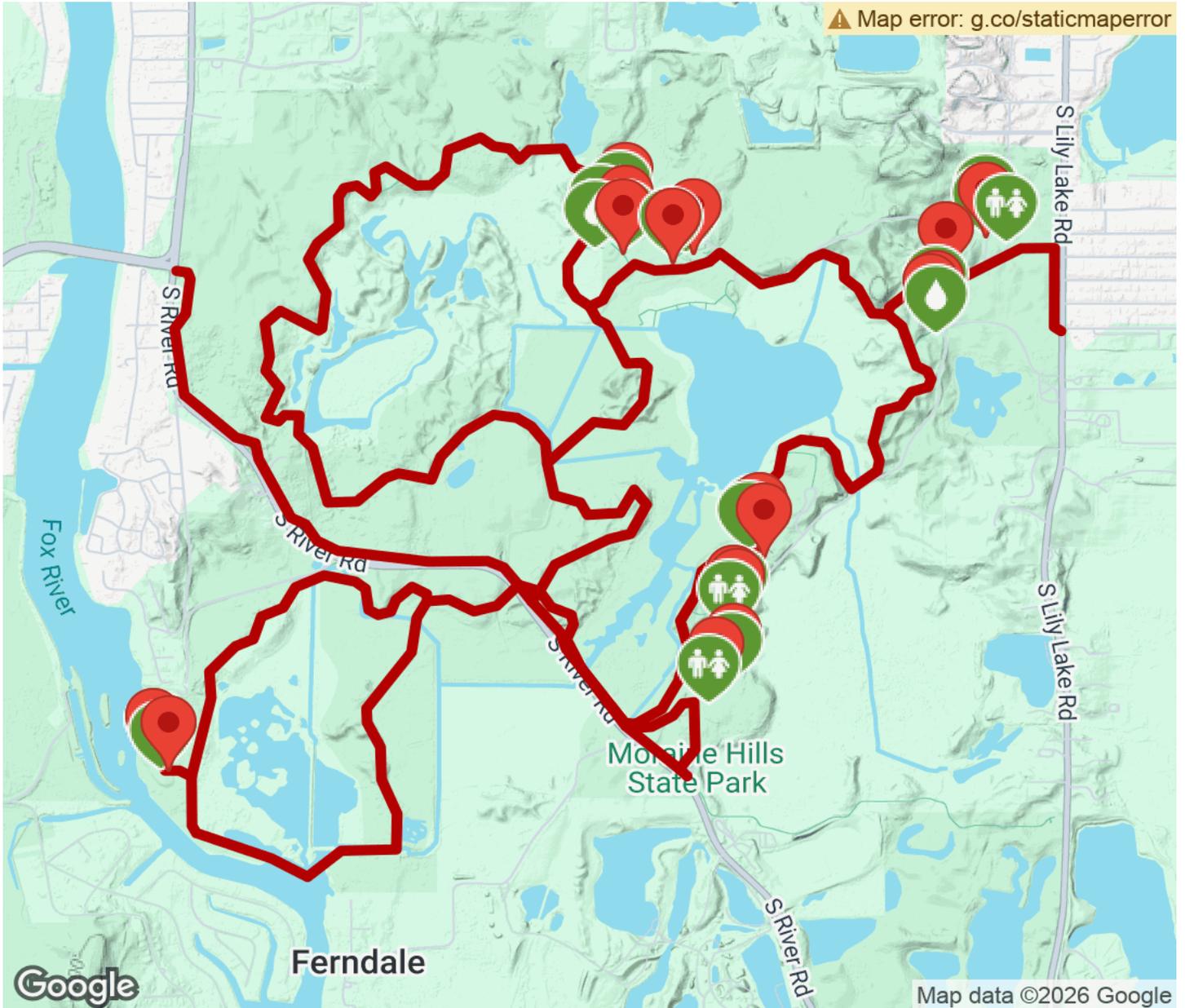
Morraine Hills State Park offers several parking options.

Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for detailed directions.



# Moraine Hills State Park Trail

Illinois



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



**TrailLink**  
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

**TrailLink.com**