



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Gerry  
Connolly  
Cross County  
Trail (VA)**

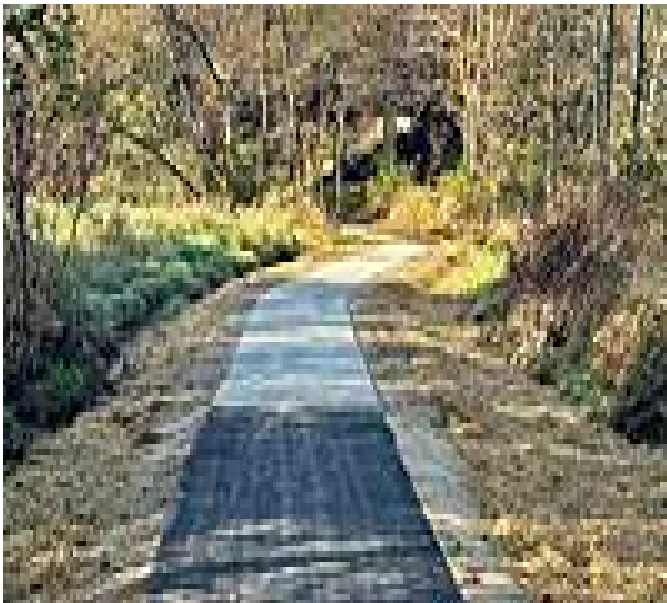
*Virginia*



# Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail (VA)

Virginia

*Overview The Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail is a multi-use trail that follows along the various stream valleys in Fairfax County,*



NOTE: Periodic flooding in some areas can wash out sections of the trail in extreme events at worst. At best, spring rains can make sections muddy. Use caution and check the local website (link to the right) for trail alerts.

## About the Route

The trail winds through northern Virginia's hardwood forests, much of it bottomland—as it follows stream courses that braid their way throughout the county. Some of the trail passes through the forest and meadows of county parks, while other sections pass through county-owned land that borders wooded subdivisions. In addition, trail users will find nearby shopping and business districts.

The northern terminus is located at legendary Great Falls Park along the Potomac River. The trail heads southwest from here along Difficult Run River, with a slight gap in the trail along Leesburg Pike. The trail then heads south through Tamarack Park and Little Difficult Run Stream Park. In Oakton, the trail turns east and begins to follow Accotink Creek.

Here, the trail passes through Mantua Park and the Eakin Community Park. In Annandale, the trail heads due south once again, still following the Accotink Creek as it passes through Mill Creek Park and Americana Park and finally skirts around Lake Accotink in Lake Accotink Park.

The southernmost section of the trail first follows Pohick Creek and then leaves off from the streambed altogether to pass through suburban neighborhoods. This section also passes Laurel Hill, the former site of the Lorton Prison, now an expansive county park with lots to offer.

Heading south, the trail extends to the Occoquan River, where it reaches its southern terminus at the Occoquan Regional Park.

## Overview

The Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail is a multi-use trail that follows along the various stream valleys in Fairfax County, Virginia for 41.4 miles. It is officially named the Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail in recognition of Congressman Connolly's strong support for open space and parkland during his tenure on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, although most people just refer to it as the Cross County Trail.

Some sections are wheelchair/mobility scooter accessible, while others feature rougher terrain that are not suited to even road bikes. Some sections are suitable for horseback riding, and the entire length of the Cross County Trail is open to foot traffic and bikes.



# Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail (VA)

Virginia

**States:** Virginia

**Counties:** Fairfax

Length: 40miles

**Trail end points:** Potomac River at Difficult Run (Great Falls National Park) to Occoquan Regional Park, 9751 Ox Rd (Occoquan)

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt,Ballast,Concrete, Crushed Stone,Dirt,Gravel

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

**Trail activities:** Bike,Inline Skating,Fishing,Wheelchair

## Parking & Trail Access

The Gerry Connolly Trail runs between the Potomac River at Difficult Run (Great Falls National Park) and Occoquan Regional Park, 9751 Ox Rd (Occoquan), with parking at the southern end.

Parking is also available at:

- Eakin Community Park, 8515 Tobin Rd (Annandale)
- 8100 Braddock Rd (Annandale)
- 6500 Byron Ave (Springfield)

There are numerous parking options along the route, Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



# Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail (VA)

Virginia



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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

[TrailLink.com](https://www.TrailLink.com)