



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Salt Creek
Trail (IL)**
Illinois



Salt Creek Trail (IL)

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Closure Notice: Starting 05/01/2023 through 12/31/2026, there will be intermittent trail closures under the Tri-State Tollway (I-294)



Closure Notice: Starting 05/01/2023 through 12/31/2026, there will be intermittent trail closures under the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) bridge, spanning from Ogden Ave to 31st St due to ongoing construction by the Illinois Tollway. Visit the Forest Preserves of Cook County's [trail page](#) for the most recent update.

The Salt Creek Trail travels 28.6 miles between the Busse Woods Forest Preserve and the Brookfield Zoo. Along the way, it connects several beautiful county forest preserves and other woodland areas.

Portions of the trail are paved, while others have a limestone screening, and a few short segments are an on-road route. It is well marked throughout, although takes care of some junctions, which can confuse.

About the Route

Leaving off from the northern end of the trail at the Busse Woods Forest Preserve, the trail almost immediately follows a short en-route section.

There are several on-road sections along the route, but the trail is also frequently interspersed by parks and natural areas. The northern section of the trail passes through the Woodale/Itasca Reservoir, the Cricket Creek County Forest Preserve, and the Wood Dale Grove Forest Preserve.

After passing through Elmhurst, where there are several trail connections, the trail connects to several more park areas. These natural areas include the Fullersburg Woods Nature Education Center, Brezina Woods, and Twenty-Sixth St. Woods.

The next section of trail is considered the Salt Creek Trail Connector and parallels 26th St. and then south alongside 1st Ave., which takes trail users by Brookfield Zoo. There is a brief gap in the trail between Ogden Ave. and Parkview Ave. The very southern section of the trail passes through Cermak Woods before coming to its southern end near the Chicago Portage National Historic Site.

Connections

At the northern end of the trail, trail users can connect to the [Busse Woods Trail](#).

In Elmhurst, the trail connects to the [Great Western Trail \(DuPage\)](#) and the [Illinois Prairie Path](#).



Salt Creek Trail (IL)

Illinois

States: Illinois

Counties: Cook, Du Page

Length: 30.4 miles

Trail end points: Busse Woods Trail (Elk Grove Village) to Chicago Portage National Historic Site, 4800 S Harlem Ave. (Forest View)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Cinder, Woodchips

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

The Salt Creek Trail (IL) runs between Busse Woods Trail (Elk Grove Village) and Chicago Portage National Historic Site, 4800 S Harlem Ave. (Forest View).

Parking is available at:

- 120 E Oak St. (Addison)
- Eldridge Park, 363 Commonwealth Ln. (Elmhurst)
- Cermark Woods, 7600 Ogden Ave. (Lyon)

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

