



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Thorn Creek
Trail System**
Illinois



Thorn Creek Trail System

Illinois

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The Thorn Creek Trail System offers a paved route traversing woodlands abundant with wildlife through several communities on the southern outskirts of Chicago. The trail travels from Brownwell Woods in Thornton, through Glenwood Woods and Joe Orr Woods. The Thorn Creek Trail System connects to the eastern end of the [Old Plank Road Trail](#) and ends in the Sauk Trail Woods Forest Preserve in Chicago Heights.



Thorn Creek Trail System

Illinois

States: Illinois

Counties: Cook

Length: 17.2 miles

Trail end points: Brownwell Woods
(Thornton) to Sauk Trail Woods Forest
Preserve (Chicago Heights)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline
Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible, Cross
Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

On the trail's north end, parking is available in Wapum Lake Woods off Glenwood-Lansing Road just west of Torrence Avenue/Rt. 83 and off Cottage Grove Avenue just south of 183rd Street.

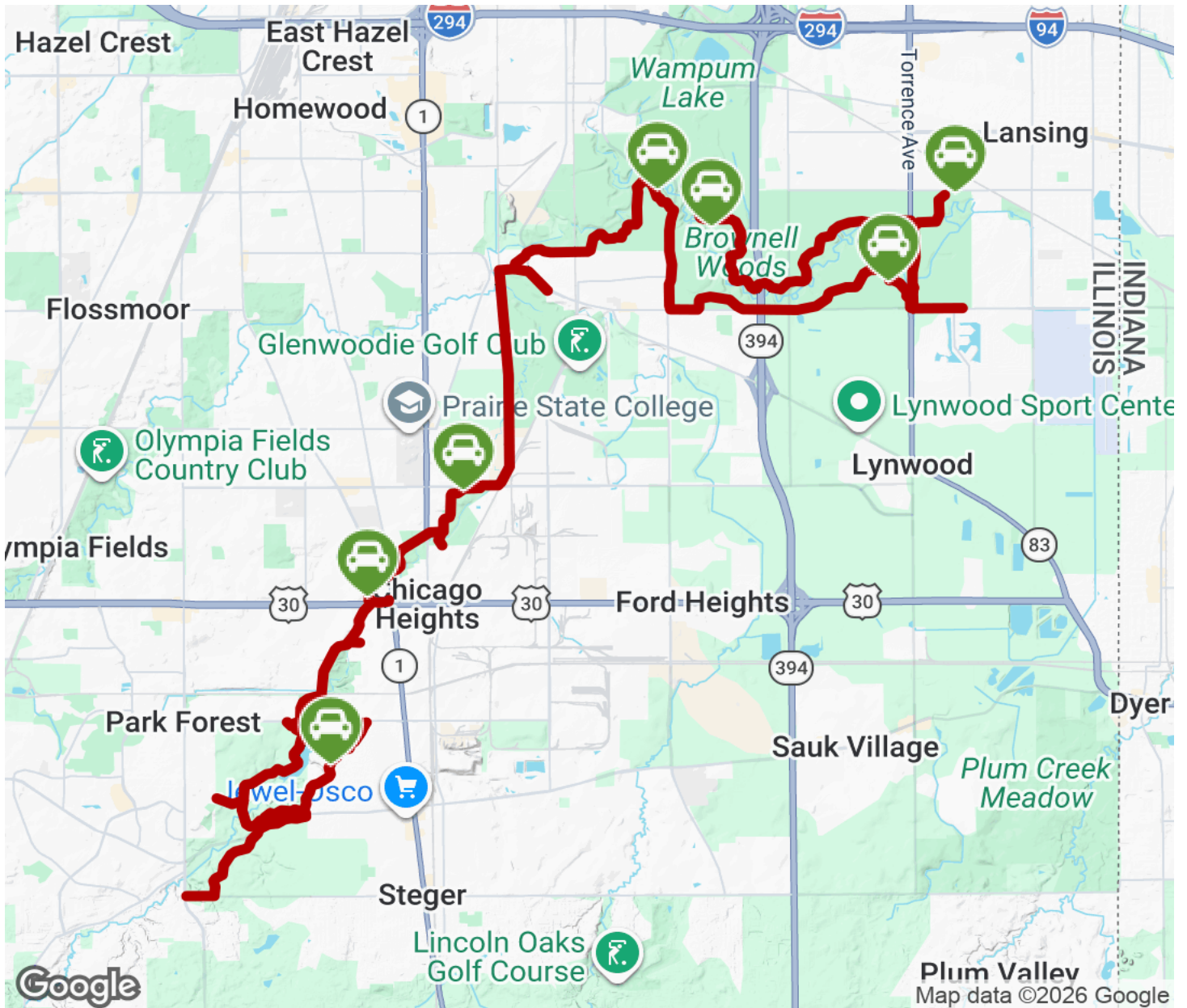
On its south end, park in Sauk Woods off Forest Preserve Drive north of 30th Street and off W. 26th Street west of Euclid Avenue.

Midway, there is parking in Joe Orr Woods off E. Joe Orr Road.



Thorn Creek Trail System

Illinois



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink

by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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