



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



# Fossil Creek Trail

*Colorado*



## Fossil Creek Trail

Colorado

*The Fossil Creek Trail offers over 8 miles of paved pathway (in two disconnected segments) on the south side of Fort Collins, a college*



Natural Area, a mixture of wetland and grassland habitat for native plants and animals. Keep a lookout for prairie dogs, raptors, horned lizards, rabbits, coyotes and snakes.

The eastern half of the trail runs about 2 miles between S. College Avenue (US 287) and Fossil Creek Park. On your way through the park, you'll travel along the serene and scenic Portner Reservoir. The northern end of the park is busier with its many recreational amenities, including ballfields, tennis and basketball courts, a roller-hockey rink, a skateboarding area and a playground with a prehistoric theme.

On the western side of S. College Avenue, you can catch the [Mason Trail](#) to head north to the doorstep of Colorado State University. In Spring Canyon Community Park, you can also connect to the [Spring Creek Trail](#) to go east across the city.

A disconnected segment of trail extends between Lemay Avenue and Carpenter Road.

The Fossil Creek Trail offers over 8 miles of paved pathway (in two disconnected segments) on the south side of Fort Collins, a college town at the foothills of the beautiful Rocky Mountains.

The western segment begins in Spring Canyon Community Park, a nice place to picnic amongst wild flowers and cottonwood trees. It also offers a 2-acre dog park and Inspiration Playground, a state-of-the-art play area that was designed to be handicap accessible and includes sensory-rich structures for visually-impaired and hearing-impaired children.

From there, the trail travels southeast for about 3 miles to S. Shields Street. Mid-way, a short spur will take you up to Fromme Prairie Way to access the Cathy Fromme Prairie



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**States:** Colorado

**Counties:** Larimer

Length: 8.7miles

**Trail end points:** Spring Creek Trail at Spring Canyon Community Park to Carpenter Road

**Trail surfaces:** Concrete

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

**Trail activities:** Bike, Inline

Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

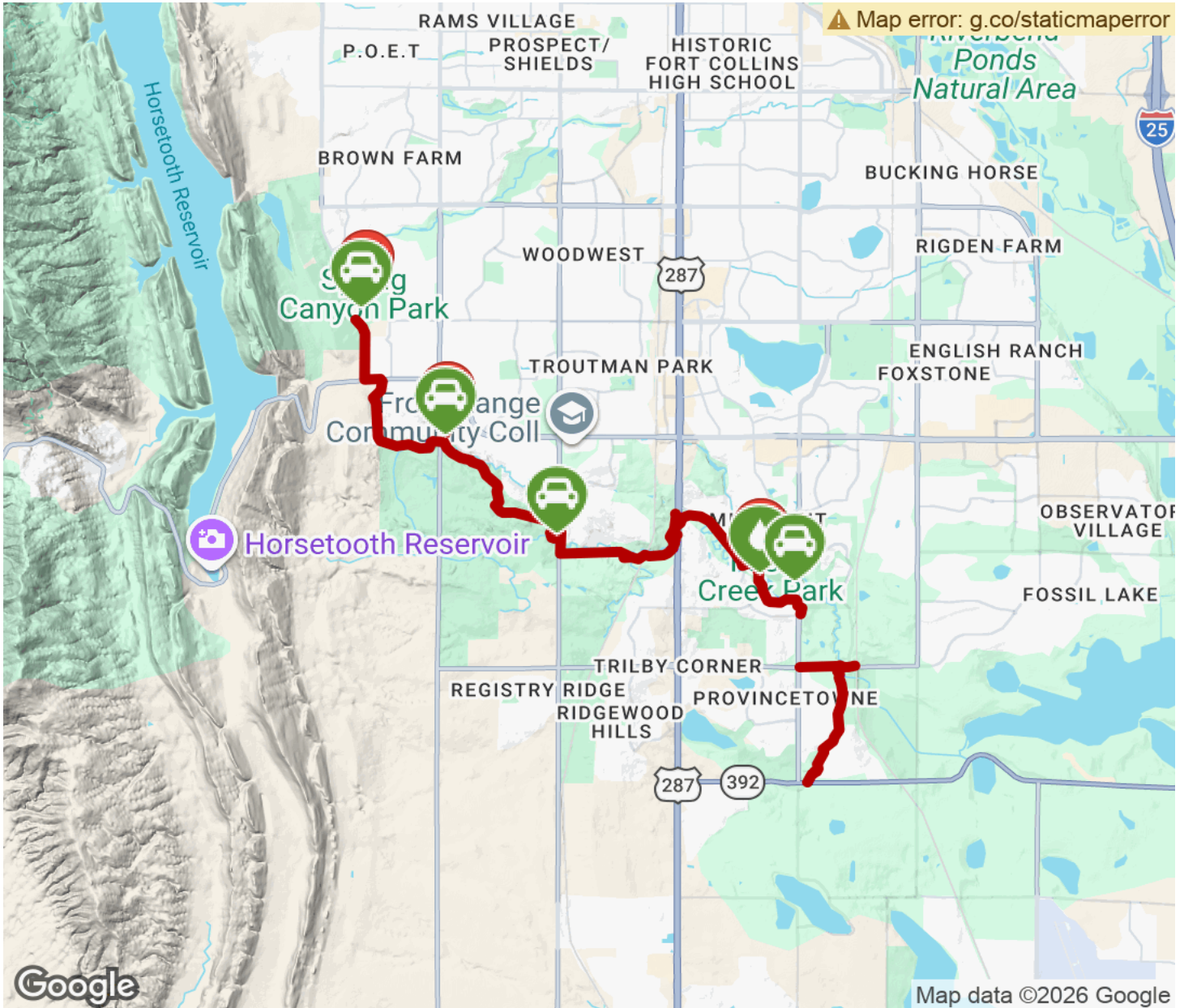
## Parking & Trail Access

Parking can be found in Spring Canyon Community Park (2626 W. Horsetooth Road), Fossil Creek Park (5821 S. Lemay Avenue) and the Cathy Fromme Prairie Natural Area (on Fromme Prairie Way).



# Fossil Creek Trail

Colorado



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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

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