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Hanover Branch Rail Trail Massachusetts



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In the southeastern outskirts of Boston, the 3.4-mile Hanover Branch Rail Trail connects the communities of Abington and Rockland. Locally, the trail's east and west halves are sometimes referred to as the Abington Rail Trail and the Rockland Rail Trail.

About the Route

Leaving from Market St. on the western end of the trail, the trail heads east, passing the French stream. The trail then passes through the heart of Rockland. As the trail meets Market St. in West Hanover, the trail crosses the street and heads southeast where it eventually dead ends. There is also a short spur trail to Ellis Field, which offers a playground and parking lot. Much of the trail is forested and wildlife sightings are common.

Trail History

The rail trail follows the former corridor of the Hanover Branch Line, built in the 1860s by E. Y. Perry, a Hanover businessman who produced tacks. The railroad originally ran between Hanover Four Corners and North Abington before becoming part of the Old Colony Line in 1887. In the 1940s and '50s, self-propelled cars for commuters ran on the tracks.



TrailLink.com



States: Massachusetts Counties: Plymouth Length: 3.4miles Trail end points: Monroe St. (Abington) to Ellis Field, 746 Circuit St. (Hanover) Trail surfaces: Asphalt,Crushed Stone Trail category: Rail-Trail Trail activities: Bike,Wheelchair Accessible,Walking

Parking & Trail Access

The Hanover Branch Rail Trail runs between Monroe St. (Abington) and Ellis Field, 746 Circuit St. (Hanover), where parking is available.

Parking is also available at:

• 167 Union St. (Rockland)

Please see <u>TrailLink Map</u> for detailed directions.



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