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TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



# 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*



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.

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.



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**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, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

## Parking & Trail Access

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

Parking is available at:

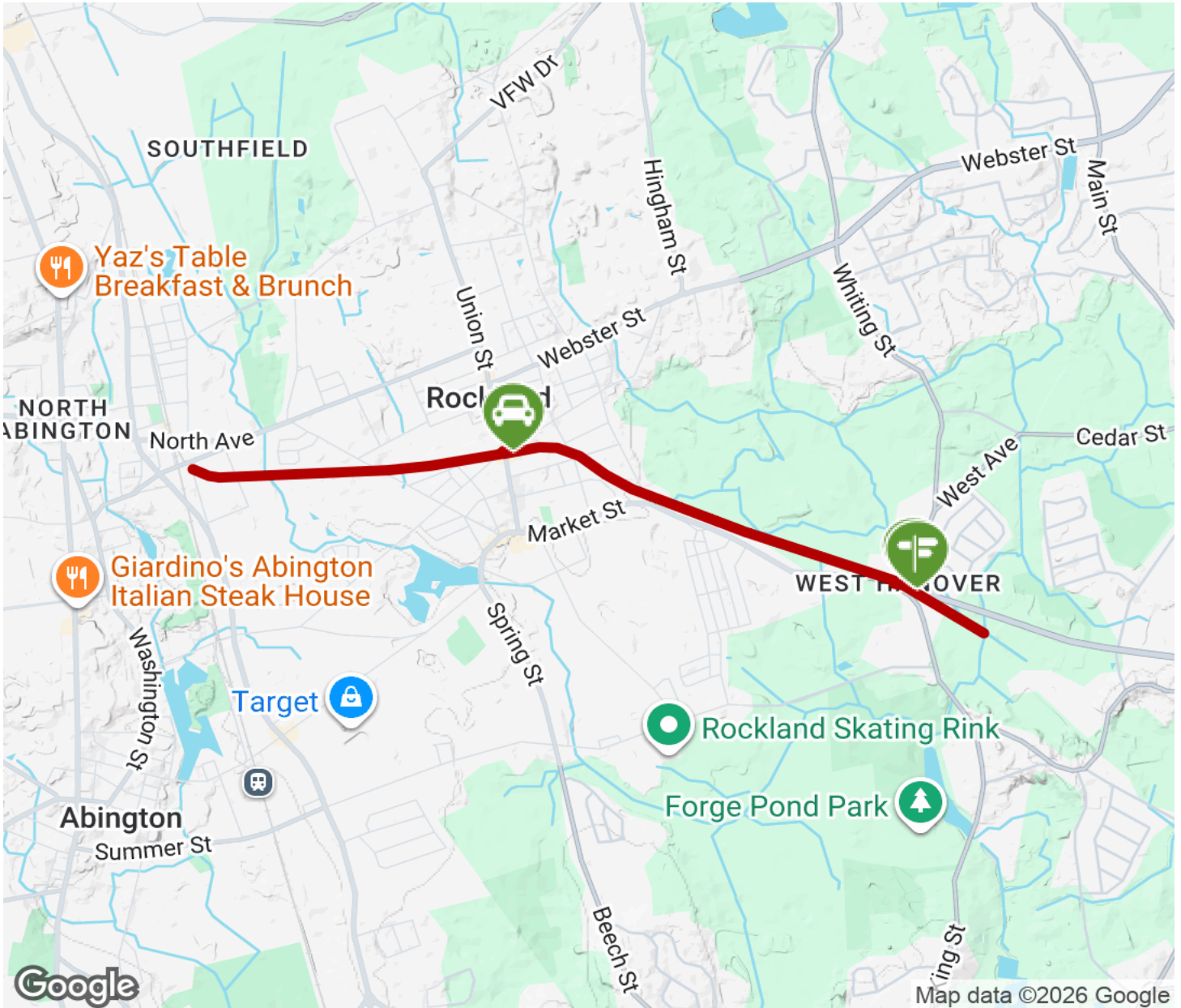
- 167 Union St. (Rockland)

Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for detailed directions.



# Hanover Branch Rail Trail

Massachusetts



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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

**TrailLink.com**