



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



Kishwaukee River Recreation Path

Illinois



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The Kishwaukee River Recreation Path runs for 2.5 miles in Cherry Valley on the outskirts of Rockford in northern Illinois. The well-maintained, asphalt trail connects the Kishwaukee River Forest Preserve with Blackhawk Springs Forest Preserve. The trail crosses the Kishwaukee River twice as it drops to the river's edge and climbs up out of the valley. It offers pleasant scenery and is almost entirely sheltered from commercial or residential development.

In addition to the paved bike path, there are also hiking trails (for walkers only) available throughout Blackhawk Springs Forest Preserve, which spans more than 600 acres and is heavily wooded.



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com



Kishwaukee River Recreation Path

Illinois

States: Illinois

Counties: Winnebago

Length: 2.5miles

Trail end points: S. Perryville Rd. north of Blackhawk Rd. to S. Mulford Rd. and Blackhawk Rd.

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

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

Parking & Trail Access

The address of the Blackhawk Springs Forest Preserve is 5360 Mulford Road. South of Rockford, exit Interstate 39 at Baxter Road. Travel east 1.16 miles and turn left onto South Mulford Road. Travel north 1.7 miles to the Kishwaukee River Forest Preserve entrance on the left. Follow the park roads down to the river to find the trail head. There are many parking spots available at either trail head. The southern trail head has parking on both sides of the river.

There is also parking and access at the Blackhawk Springs entrance north of Blackhawk Road on Mulford Road near the midpoint of the trail.



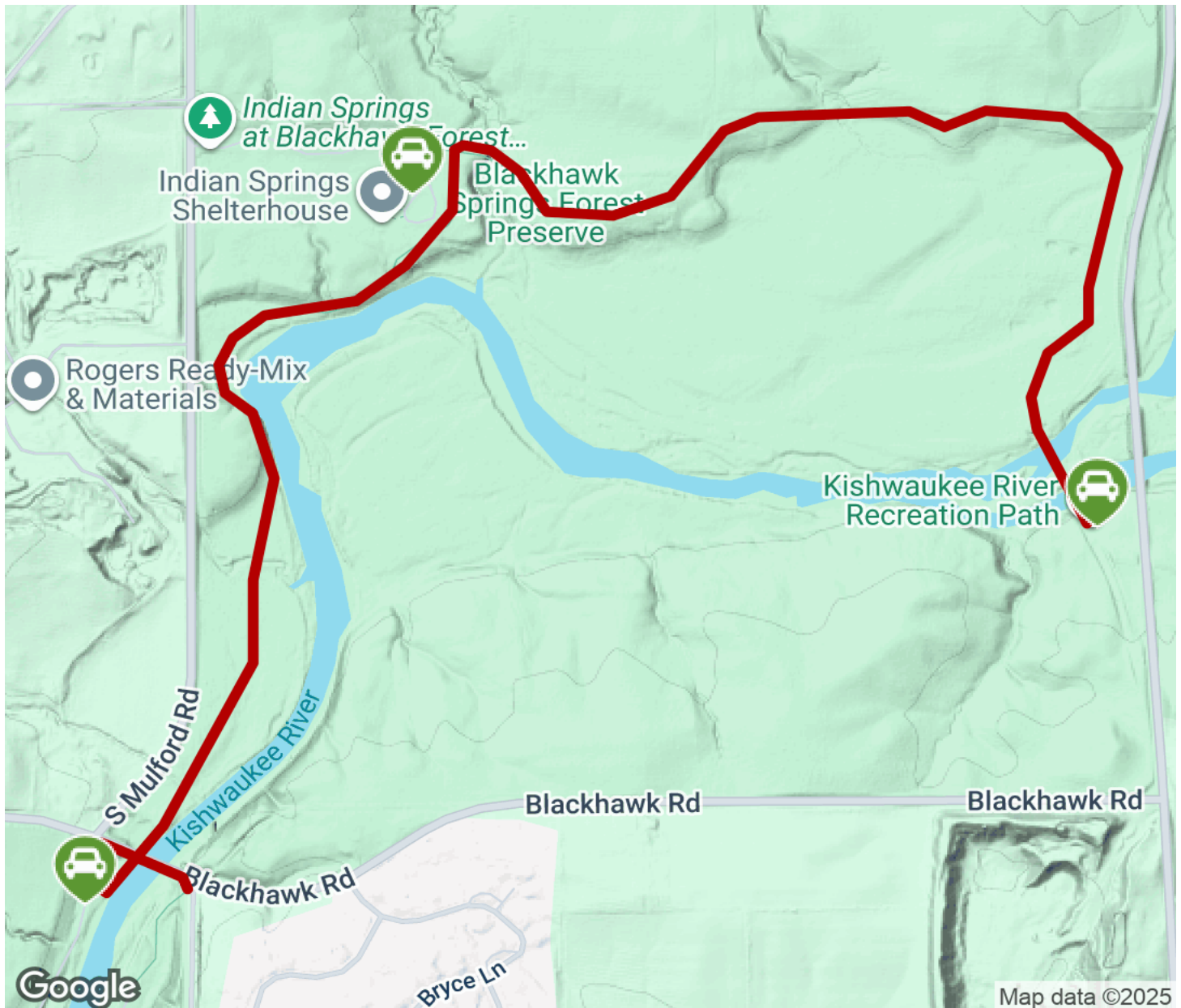
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Kishwaukee River Recreation Path

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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