



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



Lake Manawa Trail

Iowa



Lake Manawa Trail

Iowa

The Lake Manawa Trail in Council Bluffs links the city's industrial core along US 275 with Lake Manawa State Park, a popular



Lake Manawa Trail runs north adjacent to the creek until it reaches busy US 275.

At the highway, connect directly to the [Veterans Memorial Trail](#) and [Indian Creek Trail](#), which takes trail users under Interstate 80/29 and deep into the residential center of Council Bluffs.

The newest section of the Lake Manawa Trail—constructed in 2010—begins at US 275 and hugs E. Manawa Drive on the eastern side of the lake. While a relatively short segment at just under 1.5 miles long, the new section of trail offers a much shorter route for those wishing to reach the Wabash Trace Nature Trail from downtown Council Bluffs.

The Lake Manawa Trail in Council Bluffs links the city's industrial core along US 275 with Lake Manawa State Park, a popular destination for hiking, camping, boating, fishing and swimming. In the east, the trail begins at the Iowa West Foundation Trailhead Park, where the [Wabash Trace Nature Trail](#) begins its 63-mile journey south to the Missouri border and the [Valley View Trail](#) extends farther north into Council Bluffs.

In Lake Manawa State Park, a number of mountain bike trails are maintained for use. Take a quick side trip into the picnic and camping area of the park and enjoy an unparalleled view of downtown Omaha, located just across the Missouri River from Council Bluffs. Stay on the paved trail and you'll travel west around Lake Manawa onto a short bridge over Indian Creek. From here, the



Lake Manawa Trail

Iowa

States: Iowa

Counties: Pottawattamie

Length: 7.5miles

Trail end points: Iowa West Foundation
Trailhead Park at E. South Omaha Bridge Rd. to
US 275 at Indian Creek Trail; E. Manawa Park
Dr. and US 275 to Redtail Rd.

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Concrete

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

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

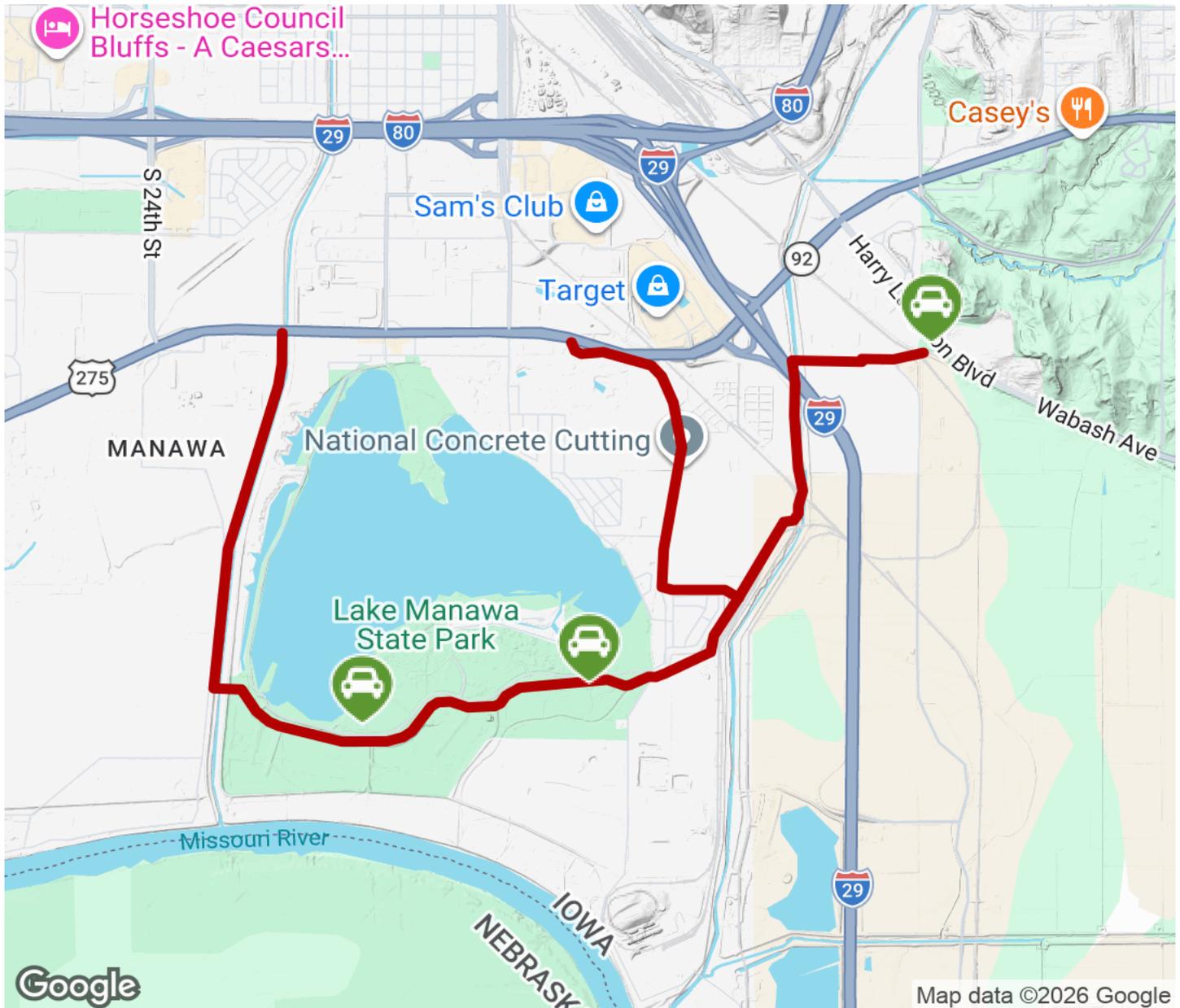
Parking & Trail Access

E. Manawa Drive completely encircles Lake Manawa (as does the Lake Manawa Trail), so access is easy. Park at the large Lake Manawa State Park parking lot on Lakewood Villa Street, located just off E. Manawa Drive at the lake's southern edge. Alternatively, park your car at Iowa West Foundation Trailhead Park and begin your journey at the trail's eastern endpoint.



Lake Manawa Trail

Iowa



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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