



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



Ben Cardin C&D Canal Recreational Trail

Maryland



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Maryland's Ben Cardin C&D Canal Recreational Trail links to Delaware's Michael Castle Trail; both run along the north bank of



The C&D Canal was dug in the early 1800s and widened in the early 1900s. It is overseen by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Chesapeake City boasts charming boutiques and several exceptional restaurants. The city also provides a free ferry service from April through October to the south side of the community located on the opposite side of the canal. On this bank, there is a delightful and important museum about the canal. Be sure to check current ferry schedule and rates before planning your day.

Connections

At the eastern end of the trail, trail users can connect to the [Michael Castle Trail](#).

Maryland's Ben Cardin C&D Canal Recreational Trail links to Delaware's Michael Castle Trail; both run along the north bank of the Chesapeake and Delaware (C&D) Canal and meet at the state line. The combined route takes travelers from the historical, quaint canal town of Chesapeake City to Delaware City.

About the Route

The trailhead for the C&D Canal trail is located on the trail's western end at the base of Lock Street in North Chesapeake City. From there, the paved pathway runs along the waterfront for 1.8 miles to the Delaware border. The trail is named after U.S. Senator Ben Cardin, whose efforts made the trail a reality.



Ben Cardin C&D Canal Recreational Trail

Maryland

States: Maryland

Counties: Cecil

Length: 1.8miles

Trail end points: Lock St. (Chesapeake City) to Michael Castle Trail (MD/DE State Line)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike, Fishing, Inline

Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

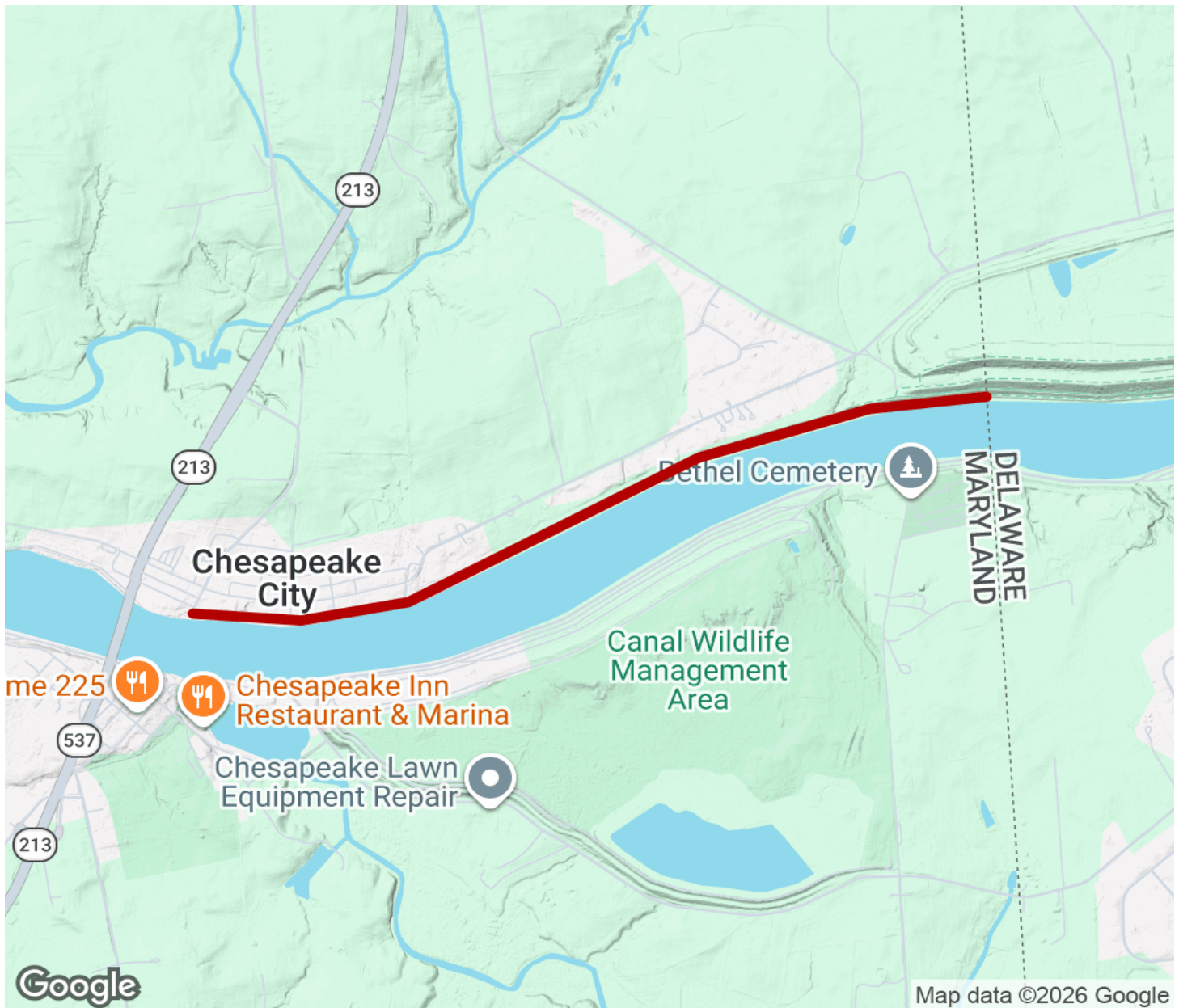
The Ben Cardin C&D Canal Recreational Trail runs between Lock St. (Chesapeake City) and Michael Castle Trail (MD/DE State Line).

There is no designated parking for this trail. Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for detailed directions.



Ben Cardin C&D Canal Recreational Trail

Maryland



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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