



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Purple Martin
Greenway**
North Carolina



Purple Martin Greenway

North Carolina

The Purple Martin Greenway provides a beautiful community amenity in Rutherfordton. The quaint western North Carolina town



Street/U.S. 221. After crossing the highway, the trail turns northward following Cleghorn Creek. There are access points down to the water, a view of a small waterfall, and a large picnic shelter in this section. The trail is largely wooded and along the way you are likely to see wildlife.

The Purple Martin Greenway provides a beautiful community amenity in Rutherfordton. The quaint western North Carolina town was established in 1787 and has many buildings on the National Register of Historic Places. The trail is named for the bird that appeared in the family crest of General Griffith Rutherford, who served in the American Revolutionary War.

The first phase of the trail opened in 2015 and the paved pathway currently spans a little more than 3 miles, and continues north all the way to Kiwanis Park.

The route begins about a mile south of the downtown area with a loop inside Crestview Park, where travelers will find ball fields, playgrounds, and a picnic shelter. From there, the trail continues southeast towards S. Main



Purple Martin Greenway

North Carolina

States: North Carolina

Counties: Rutherford

Length: 3.2miles

Trail end points: Industrial Park Rd. to
Crestview Park

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike,Inline

Skating,Walking,Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

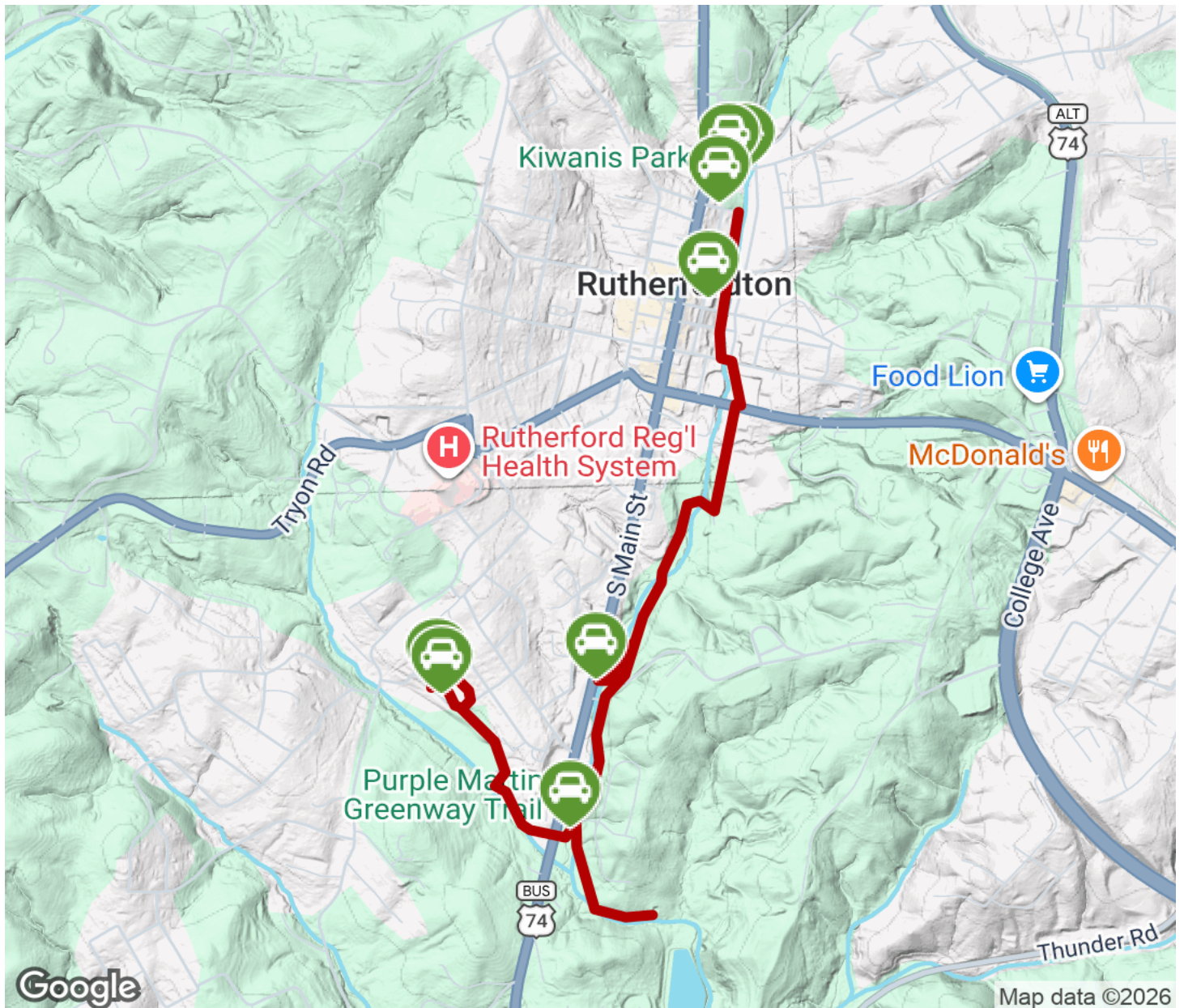
There is limited parking available at the northern endpoint along E 7th St just outside of Kiwanis Park. Additional street parking is available along Skyline Dr.

See [TrailLink Map](#) for more detailed directions.



Purple Martin Greenway

North Carolina



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com