



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



Cardinal Greenway

Indiana



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Overview

The Cardinal Greenway, the longest rail-trail in Indiana at 61 miles, connects Marion, Muncie, Losantville, Richmond, and a host of other small towns in rural northeastern Indiana. The trail takes its name from the Cardinal, the passenger train that once regularly ran the route.

The paved pathway is open from sunrise to sunset, and it's well-maintained and mostly flat for its entire length. The design elements along the path are consistent throughout, with arched steel embellishments on bridge crossings and stone mile markers every 0.5 mile.

About the Route

Starting just north of Marion, the Cardinal Greenway heads south back into downtown Marion. For a stretch at the beginning of the Cardinal Greenway into Marion, the path runs adjacent to and then crosses an active Norfolk Southern line as the greenway passes through a flat, rural landscape that highlights industrial and farmland scenery. This portion of the trail is a rail-with-trail and separated from the active rail line by vegetation.

Heading southwest out of Marion, the trail passes by trailheads at Miller Avenue and Hogin Park, both featuring information kiosks and ample parking. After the parks, the route crosses the first of nine bridges in rapid succession. As the trail winds its way into Jonesboro, a slight uphill climb takes you to a bridge that overlooks the Mississinewa River.

An 11.3-mile gap in the Cardinal Greenway exists from Jonesboro to Gaston due to private landowners acquiring the former rail corridor. An on-road route has been designated between the two towns.

Wildflowers flank the Gaston section of the greenway during the spring and summer. As the trail reaches the County Road 400 trailhead, the urban fingers of Muncie start to reach out. An influx of runners, walkers, and in-line skaters—many of them students at nearby Ball State University—often crowd the trail. Here, trail users can spot two bridges: to the right, a historical trestle bridge; to the left, the bicycle and pedestrian bridge that takes you across the White River. Another 0.3 mile south is the beautifully restored Wysor Street Depot, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, which serves as the main office of Cardinal Greenways, Inc.

Heading south past the Kitselman Bridge, trail users will find themselves in the quiet residential neighborhoods of Muncie. After the trail passes under US-35, the trail reenters the sun-drenched Indiana countryside, where the trail meanders along the highway through Medford and Blountsville. At the Medford trailhead (County Road 500 South), equestrians can



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States: Indiana

Counties: Delaware, Grant, Henry, Randolph, Wayne

Length: 61 miles

Trail end points: County Rd. 400 W (Sweetser) to E 10th St (Jonesboro) to W Elm St (Gaston) to 330 N 3rd St (Richmond)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Wheelchair Accessible, Horseback

Parking & Trail Access

The Cardinal Greenway runs between County Rd. 400 W (Sweetser) and E 10th St (Jonesboro) and W Elm St (Gaston) and 330 N 3rd St (Richmond), with parking available in Sweetser, Gaston, and Richmond.

Parking is also available at:

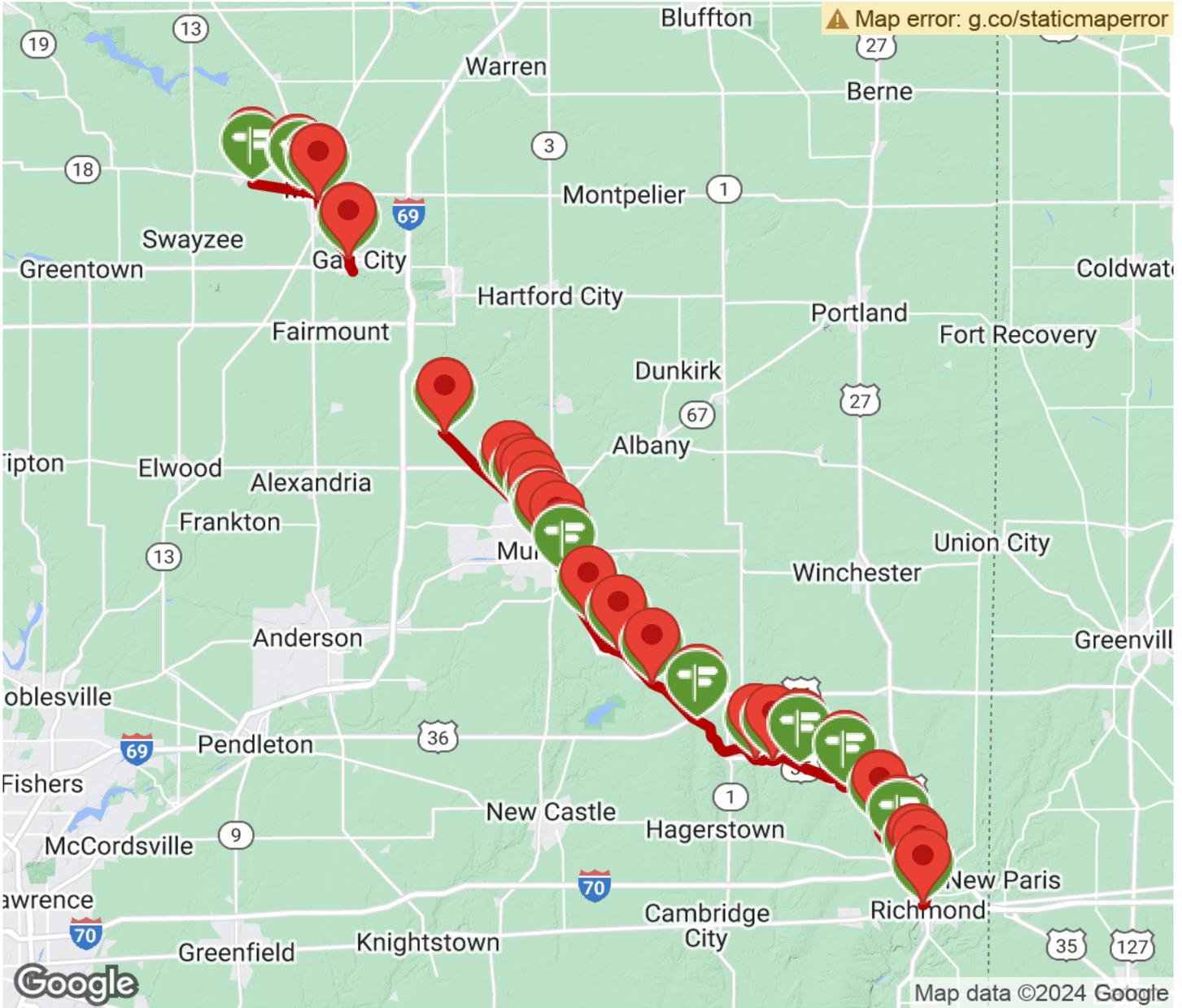
- 525 E McCulloch Blvd (Muncie)
- 440 S Main St (Losantville)
- 8565 N Centerville Rd (Williamsburg)

See [TrailLink map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com