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Featuring 29 of the BEST trails in Northeast Iowa!



**Welcome to Northeast Iowa's Ride-Worthy Routes**

Welcome to Northeast Iowa, home to some of the best bike trails and most scenic landscapes in Iowa. Use this guide to navigate more than 200 miles of paved, granular, soft, and single-track trails spread across seven counties.

Don't miss the Points of Interest section where you'll find contact information for local Visitor Welcome Centers that can provide you even more information on the region's abundant lodging, dining, shopping, outdoor recreation, arts and culture, and historic attractions.

Enjoy your time riding across Northeast Iowa. You'll love the view from here!

Ride the **BEST** Part of Iowa  
#WowWhoKnew  
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**Trail Safety**

Many bike trails in Northeast Iowa are multi-use trails and you may encounter walkers, joggers, horseback riders, and pets. Some trails have little or no cell phone service, travel along shared roadways and through towns, or may have been modified since the creation of this map. Please follow these guidelines to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all trail users.

- Share the Trail.** Slow down and be courteous of all users. Bikes yield to horses and pedestrians.
- Ride Right.** Ride on the right and pass on the left.
- Communicate.** Signal when you approach others or are turning.
- Stay Aware.** Keep your eyes and ears open for other trail users or vehicles.
- Make a Plan.** Know your route and tell others where you are going and when you will be back.
- Follow the Signs.** Pay attention to trail signs and directions installed by trail managers.
- Use Safe Equipment.** Wear a helmet and make sure your bike is working properly.
- Leave No Trace.** Trash belongs in the garbage.

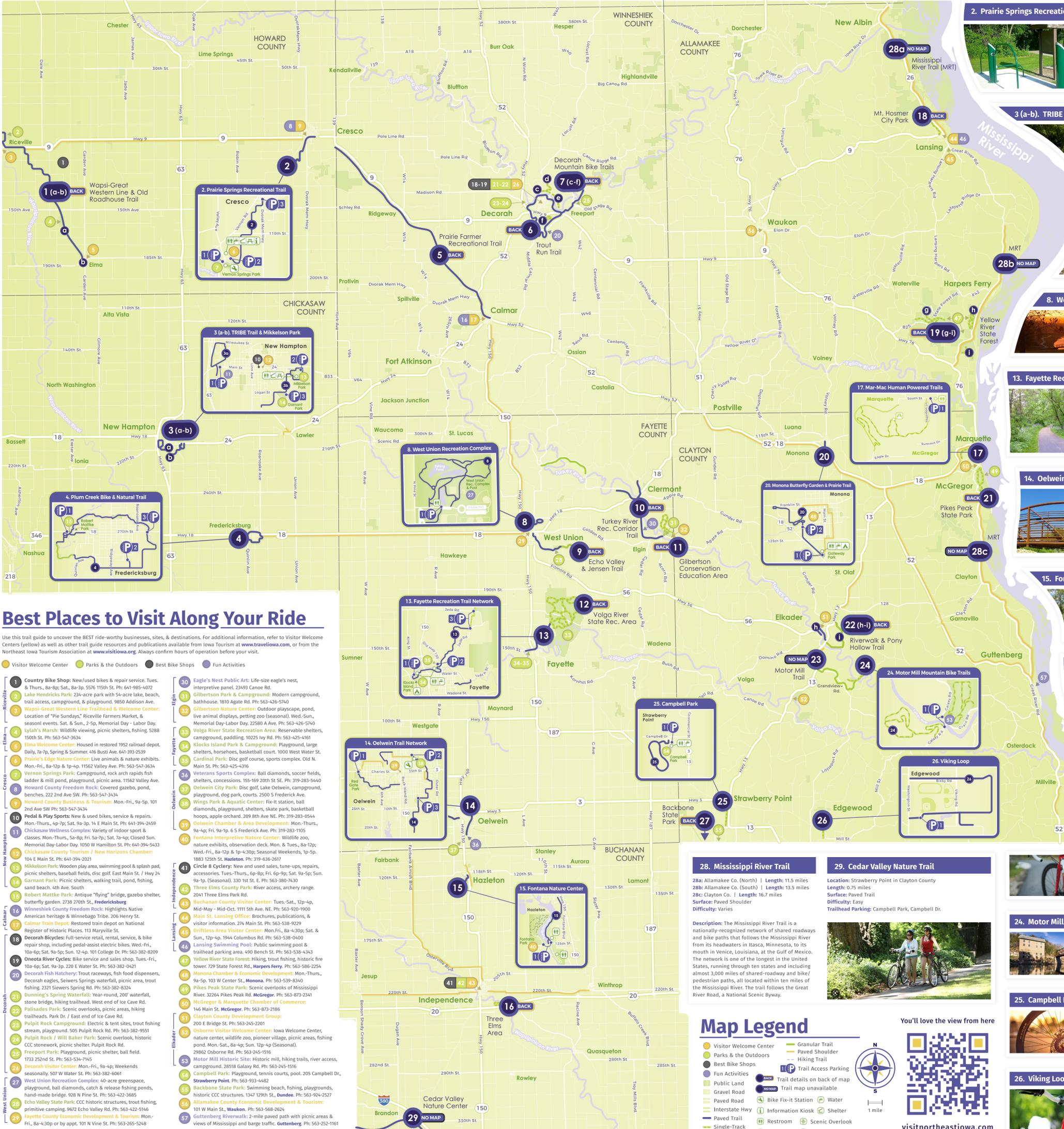
**Acknowledgements**

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Allamakee County Economic Development & Tourism, Buchanan County Tourism, Chickasaw County Tourism, Clayton County Development Group, Fayette County Economic Development & Tourism, Howard County Business & Tourism, Turkey River Recreational Corridor, Winneshiek County Development & Tourism, Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission, Visit Decatur Tourism

Map & Publication Designed by Northeast Iowa RC&D. Website: www.northeastiowarc.org | Ph: 563-864-7112



**Best Places to Visit Along Your Ride**

Use this trail guide to uncover the BEST ride-worthy businesses, sites, & destinations. For additional information, refer to Visitor Welcome Centers (yellow) as well as other trail guide resources and publications available from Iowa Tourism at [www.traveliowa.com](http://www.traveliowa.com), or from the Northeast Iowa Tourism Association at [www.visitiowa.org](http://www.visitiowa.org). Always confirm hours of operation before your visit.

- Visitor Welcome Center** ● **Parks & the Outdoors** ● **Best Bike Shops** ● **Fun Activities**
- 1 Country Bike Shop:** New/used bikes & repair service. Tues. & Thurs., 8a-8p; Sat., 8a-3p. 5576 115th St. Ph: 641-985-4072
- 2 Lake Hendricks Park:** 234-acre park with 54-acre lake, beach, trail access, campground, & playground. 9850 Addison Ave. Wapsi-Great Western Line Trailheads & Welcome Center. Location of "The Sundays" Riceville Farmers Market, & seasonal events. Sat. & Sun., 2-5p. Memorial Day - Labor Day. Lylah's Marsh: Wildlife viewing, picnic shelters, fishing, 5288 150th St. Ph: 563-547-3634
- 3 Elma Welcome Center:** Housed in restored 1952 railroad depot. Daily, 7a-7p, Spring & Summer. 416 Busti Ave. 641-393-2539
- 4 Prairie's Edge Nature Center:** Live animals & nature exhibits. Mon.-Fri., 8a-12p & 1p-4p. 11563 Valley Ave. Ph: 563-547-3634
- 5 Vernon Springs Park:** Campground, rock arch rapids fish ladder & mill pond, playground, picnic area. 11562 Valley Ave. 150th St. Ph: 563-547-3634
- 6 Howard County Freedom Rock:** Covered gazebo, pond, benches. 222 2nd Ave SW. Ph: 563-547-3434
- 7 Howard County Business & Tourism:** Mon.-Fri., 9a-5p. 101 2nd Ave SW. Ph: 563-547-3434
- 8 Prairie's Edge Nature Center:** Live animals & nature exhibits. Mon.-Fri., 8a-12p & 1p-4p. 11563 Valley Ave. Ph: 563-547-3634
- 9 Chickasaw Wellness Complex:** Variety of indoor sport & classes. Mon.-Thurs., 5a-8p; Fri. 5a-7p; Sat. 7a-4p; Closed Sun. Memorial Day-Labor Day. 1050 W Hamilton St. Ph: 641-394-5433
- 10 Chickasaw County Tourism / New Horizons Chamber:** 104 E Main St. Ph: 641-394-2021
- 11 Prairie's Edge Nature Center:** Live animals & nature exhibits. Mon.-Fri., 8a-12p & 1p-4p. 11563 Valley Ave. Ph: 563-547-3634
- 12 Garnant Park:** Picnic shelters, walking trail, pond, fishing, sand beach. 4th Ave. South
- 13 Robert Mattke Park:** Antique "flying" bridge, gazebo shelter, butterfly garden. 2738 27th St., **Fredericksburg**
- 14 Winneshiek County Freedom Rock:** Highlights Native American heritage & Winnemacago Tribe. 206 Henry St. **Calmar**
- 15 Decatur Fish Hatchery:** Trout raceways, fish food dispensers, Decatur eagles, Selwers Springs waterfall, picnic area, trout fishing. 2321 Selwers Spring Rd. Ph: 563-382-8324
- 16 Dunning's Spring Waterfall:** Year-round, 200' waterfall, stone bridge, hiking trailhead. West end of Ice Cave Rd. **Palisades Park:** Scenic overlooks, picnic areas, hiking trailheads. Park Dr. / East end of Ice Cave Rd.
- 17 Pulpit Rock Campground:** Electric & tent sites, trout fishing stream, playground. 505 Pulpit Rock Rd. Ph: 563-382-9553
- 18 Pulpit Rock / Will Baker Park:** Scenic overlook, historic CCC stonework, picnic shelter. Pulpit Rock Rd.
- 19 Freeport Park:** Playground, picnic shelter, ball field. 1733 252nd St. Ph: 563-534-7145
- 20 Decatur Visitor Welcome Center:** Mon.-Fri., 9a-4p; Weekends seasonally. 507 W Water St. Ph: 563-382-6061
- 21 Decatur Visitor Welcome Center:** Iowa Welcome Center, nature center, wildlife zoo, pioneer village, picnic areas, fishing pond. Mon.-Sat., 8a-4p; Sun. 12p-4p (Seasonal). 29862 Osborne Rd. Ph: 563-245-1516
- 22 Motor Mill Historic Site:** Historic mill, hiking trails, river access, campground. 28518 Galaxy Rd. Ph: 563-245-1516
- 23 Campbell Park:** 28518 Galaxy Rd. Ph: 563-245-1516
- 24 Osborne Visitor Welcome Center:** Iowa Welcome Center, nature center, wildlife zoo, pioneer village, picnic areas, fishing pond. Mon.-Sat., 8a-4p; Sun. 12p-4p (Seasonal). 29862 Osborne Rd. Ph: 563-245-1516
- 25 Motor Mill Historic Site:** Historic mill, hiking trails, river access, campground. 28518 Galaxy Rd. Ph: 563-245-1516
- 26 Campbell Park:** 28518 Galaxy Rd. Ph: 563-245-1516
- 27 West Union Recreation Complex:** 40-acre greenspace, playground, ball diamonds, catch & release fishing ponds, hand-made bridge. 928 N Pine St. Ph: 563-422-3685
- 28 Echo Valley State Park:** CCC historic structures, trout fishing, primitive camping. 9672 Echo Valley Rd. Ph: 563-422-5146
- 29 Fayette County Economic Development & Tourism:** Mon.-Fri., 8a-4:30p or by appt. 101 N Vine St. Ph: 563-265-5248
- 30 Eagle's Nest Public Art:** Life-size eagle's nest, interpretive panel. 23493 Canoe Rd.
- 31 Gilbertson Park & Campground:** Modern campground, bathroom. 1810 Agate Rd. Ph: 563-426-5740
- 32 Gilbertson Nature Center:** Outdoor playcape, pond, live animal displays, petting zoo (seasonal). Wed.-Sun. Memorial Day-Labor Day. 22580 A Ave. Ph: 563-426-5740
- 33 Volga River State Recreation Area:** Reservable shelters, campground, paddling. 10225 Ivy Rd. Ph: 563-425-4161
- 34 Klocks Island Park & Campground:** Playground, large shelters, horsehoses, basketball court. 1000 West Water St. Cardinal Park: Disc golf course, sports complex. Old N. Main St. Ph: 563-425-4316
- 35 Veterans Sports Complex:** Ball diamonds, soccer fields, shelters, concessions. 155-169 20th St SE. Ph: 319-283-5440
- 36 Oelwein City Park:** Disc golf, Lake Oelwein, campground, playground, dog park, courts. 2500 S Frederick Ave. Wings Park & Aquatic Center: Fix-it station, ball diamonds, playground, shelters, skate park, basketball hoop, apple orchard. 209 9th Ave NE. Ph: 319-283-0544
- 37 Oelwein Chamber & Area Development:** Mon.-Thurs., 9a-4p; Fri. 9a-1p. 6 S Frederick Ave. Ph: 319-283-1105
- 38 Fontana Interpretive Nature Center:** Wildlife zoo, nature exhibits, observation deck. Mon. & Tues., 8a-12p; Wed.-Fri., 8a-12p & 1p-4:30p; Seasonal Weekends, 1p-5p. 1883 125th St. **Hazleton**. Ph: 319-636-2617
- 39 Oelwein Chamber & Area Development:** Mon.-Thurs., 9a-4p; Fri. 9a-1p. 6 S Frederick Ave. Ph: 319-283-1105
- 40 Fontana Interpretive Nature Center:** Wildlife zoo, nature exhibits, observation deck. Mon. & Tues., 8a-12p; Wed.-Fri., 8a-12p & 1p-4:30p; Seasonal Weekends, 1p-5p. 1883 125th St. **Hazleton**. Ph: 319-636-2617
- 41 Oelwein Chamber & Area Development:** Mon.-Thurs., 9a-4p; Fri. 9a-1p. 6 S Frederick Ave. Ph: 319-283-1105
- 42 Three Elms County Park:** River access, archery range. 2041 Three Elms Park Rd.
- 43 Buchanan County Visitor Center:** Tues.-Sat., 12p-4p, Mid-May - Mid-Oct. 1111 5th Ave. NE. Ph: 563-920-1900
- 44 Main St. Lansing Office:** Brochures, publications, & visitor information. 274 Main St. Ph: 563-538-9239
- 45 Driftless Area Visitor Center:** Mon.-Fri., 8a-4:30p; Sat. & Sun., 12p-4p. 1944 Columbus Rd. Ph: 563-538-0400
- 46 Lansing Swimming Pool:** Public swimming pool & trailhead parking area. 490 Bench St. Ph: 563-538-4343
- 47 Yellow River State Forest:** Hiking, trout fishing, historic fire tower. 729 State Forest Rd., **Harpers Ferry**. Ph: 563-586-2254
- 48 Monona Chamber & Economic Development:** Mon.-Thurs., 9a-5p. 103 W Center St., **Monona**. Ph: 563-539-8340
- 49 Pikes Peak State Park:** Scenic overlooks of Mississippi River. 32264 Pikes Peak Rd. **McGregor**. Ph: 563-873-2341
- 50 McGregor & Marquette Chamber of Commerce:** 146 Main St. **McGregor**. Ph: 563-873-2186
- 51 Clayton County Development Group:** 200 E Bridge St. Ph: 563-245-2201
- 52 Osborne Visitor Welcome Center:** Iowa Welcome Center, nature center, wildlife zoo, pioneer village, picnic areas, fishing pond. Mon.-Sat., 8a-4p; Sun. 12p-4p (Seasonal). 29862 Osborne Rd. Ph: 563-245-1516
- 53 Motor Mill Historic Site:** Historic mill, hiking trails, river access, campground. 28518 Galaxy Rd. Ph: 563-245-1516
- 54 Campbell Park:** 28518 Galaxy Rd. Ph: 563-245-1516
- 55 West Union Recreation Complex:** 40-acre greenspace, playground, ball diamonds, catch & release fishing ponds, hand-made bridge. 928 N Pine St. Ph: 563-422-3685
- 56 Allamakee County Economic Development & Tourism:** 101 W Main St., **Waukon**. Ph: 563-568-2624
- 57 Guttenberg Riverwalk:** 2-mile paved path with picnic areas & views of Mississippi and barge traffic. **Guttenberg**. Ph: 563-252-1161

**Map Legend**

- Visitor Welcome Center
- Parks & the Outdoors
- Best Bike Shops
- Fun Activities
- Public Land
- Gravel Road
- Paved Road
- Interstate Hwy
- Paved Trail
- Single-Track & Soft Trail
- Granular Trail
- Paved Shoulder
- Hiking Trail
- Trail Access Parking
- Trail details on back of map
- Trail map unavailable
- Bike Fix-it Station
- Information Kiosk
- Restroom
- Scenic Overlook
- Picnic Area
- Primitive Camping



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**2. Prairie Springs Recreational Trail**



Location: Cresco in Howard County  
Length: 3.5 miles  
Surface: Paved Trail  
Difficulty: Easy  
Trailhead Parking: Vernon Springs Park, 11562 Valley Ave  
Other Notes: Fitness equipment located along trail

**3 (a-b). TRIBE Trail - Industrial & Mikkelsen Park**



Location: New Hampton in Chickasaw County  
Length: 5.5 miles  
Surface: Paved Trail  
Difficulty: Easy to Medium  
Trailhead Parking: Chickasaw Wellness Complex, 1050 W Hamilton St  
Other Notes: Mikkelsen Park, Garnant Park, Mission Ave

**4. Plum Creek Bike and Nature Trail**



Location: Fredericksburg in Chickasaw County  
Length: 5 miles  
Surface: Mix of Granular & Paved Trail  
Difficulty: Easy to Medium  
Trailhead Parking: Robert Mattke Park, 2738 27th St  
Other Notes: Swimming Pool, 111 Schult Ridge Rd, Schoolhouse Museum, 2698 Roanoke Ave

**8. West Union Recreation Complex**



Location: West Union in Fayette County  
Length: 1 mile  
Surface: Paved Trail  
Difficulty: Easy  
Trailhead Parking: West Union Rec Complex, 928 N Pine St.

**13. Fayette Recreation Trail Network**



Location: Fayette in Fayette County  
Length: 5 miles  
Surface: Paved, Granular, & Boardwalk Trails  
Difficulty: Easy to Medium  
Other Notes: Connects to Volga River State Park  
Trailhead Parking: Klocks Island Park, 150th St  
Cardinal Park, Old N. Main St  
Two Trailheads along Jade Rd.

**14. Oelwein Trail Network**



Location: Oelwein in Fayette County  
Length: 2 miles  
Surface: Paved Trail  
Difficulty: Easy  
Trailhead Parking: Red Gate Park, 201 20th St. SE  
Wings Park, 209 8th Ave NE  
Platt Park, 7th St. and 7th Ave

**15. Fontana Nature Center**



Location: Hazleton in Buchanan County  
Length: 1.5 mile  
Surface: Paved Trail  
Difficulty: Easy  
Other Notes: Connects to city of Hazleton  
Trailhead Parking: Fontana Nature Center, 1883 125th St.

**17. Mar-Mac Human Powered Trails**



Location: McGregor & Marquette in Clayton County  
Length: 2 miles  
Surface: Mix of Granular & Paved Shoulder  
Difficulty: Medium to Hard  
Trailhead Parking: Gateway Park & 3rd St., Marquette  
Intersection of South & 3rd St., Marquette

**20. Monona Butterfly Garden & Prairie Trail**



Location: Monona in Clayton County  
Length: 2.5 miles  
Surface: Paved Trail  
Difficulty: Easy  
Trailhead Parking: Gateway Park & 3rd St., Marquette  
Aquatic Center / Butterfly Garden, 601 W Davis St.

**23. Motor Mill Trail**



Location: Elkader in Clayton County  
Length: 7.5 miles  
Surface: Mix of Granular Trail & Paved Shoulder  
Difficulty: Medium to Hard  
Trailhead Parking: Motor Mill Historic Site, 28518 Galaxy Rd  
Turkey River Park, 20195 Strawberry Point Rd.

**24. Motor Mill Mountain Bike Trails**



Location: Elkader in Clayton County  
Length: 3 miles  
Surface: Single-Track Trail  
Difficulty: Medium to Hard  
Trailhead Parking: Motor Mill Historic Site, 28518 Galaxy Rd.

**25. Campbell Park**



Location: Strawberry Point in Clayton County  
Length: 0.75 miles  
Surface: Paved Trail  
Difficulty: Easy  
Trailhead Parking: Campbell Park, Campbell Dr.

**26. Viking Loop**



Location: Edgewood in Clayton County  
Length: 1 mile  
Surface: Paved Trail  
Difficulty: Easy  
Trailhead Parking: Event Center, 305 North Washington St.

## 6. Trout Run Trail



- Trail Access Parking**
- 6. Trout Run Trail
    - Parking Area, 5th Ave. Bridge Landing
    - Will Baker Park, Pulpit Rock Rd.
    - Parking Area, 1400 Industrial Ln.
    - Fish Hatchery, 2321 Siewers Spring Rd.
    - Trout Run Park, 1830 Ia-9
    - Walmart Parking, 1798 Old Stage Rd.
    - Freepark Park, 1733 252nd St.
    - Wold Park, 800 Decarah Ave.
    - Palisades Park, 2566 Ice Cave Rd.
    - Carl Selland Wayside Park, 108 5th Ave.

**Location:** Decarah in Winneshiek County | **Length:** 11 miles | **Surface:** Paved Trail | **Difficulty:** Varies  
**Description:** The 11-mile Trout Run Trail loops Decarah, offering stunning views and safe, non-motorized access to trout streams, the Upper Iowa River, art pieces, the Decarah Fish Hatchery / Siewers Spring, the Decarah eagles, a campground, several parks with miles of hiking trails, and the many shops, restaurants, and breweries of Decarah. Half of the trail is flat and half provides challenging climbs. A 3-mile extension takes riders to the playground and shelter at Freepark Park.



## 22 (h-i). Riverwalk & Pony Hollow Trail



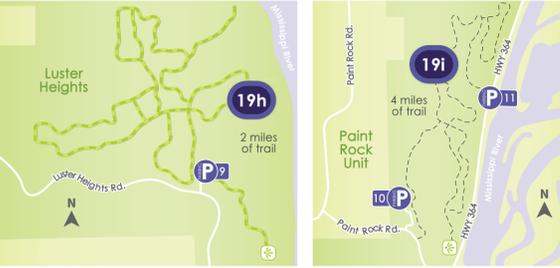
- Trail Access Parking**
- 22h. Riverwalk
    - Founders Park, 302 S Main St.
    - Elkader City Park, 423 S High St.
  - 22i. Pony Hollow Trail
    - Elkader Pool, 601 S High St.
    - Parking Area, 21553 250th St.

**Location:** Elkader in Clayton County | **Length:** 6 miles | **Surface:** Pony Hollow - Granular; Riverwalk - Paved Trail | **Difficulty:** Varies | **Description:** The River Walk leads you through downtown Elkader, crossing the Keystone Bridge to the City Park and Pony Hollow Trail. The flat, four-mile, lime chipped Pony Hollow Trail offers one of the region's most scenic rides as it meanders the banks of the Turkey River and Roberts Creek. Pony Hollow Trail is a multi-use trail, including horseback riding. Bikers yield.

## 19 (g-i). Yellow River State Forest



- Trail Access Parking**
- 19g. Paint Creek Unit
    - 729 State Forest Rd., Harpers Ferry
    - Parking, White Pine Rd.
    - Park Office
    - Parking, State Forest Rd. (East)
    - Historic Firetower
    - Parking, Donahue Rd. (South)
    - Parking, Donahue Rd. (North)
    - LPC Campground (South)
    - LPC Campground (North)
  - 19h. Luster Heights, Harpers Ferry
    - 481 Luster Heights Rd.
  - 19i. Paint Rock Unit, Harpers Ferry
    - 621 Paint Rock Rd.
    - 751 Hwy 364 Rd.



**Location:** Harpers Ferry in Allamakee County | **Length:** 20+ miles | **Surface:** Single Track & Soft  
**Difficulty:** Varies | **Description:** The trails at Yellow River State Forest prove that Iowa is anything but flat. Expect steep climbs rewarded with stunning overlooks and views. Biking is allowed only on designated trails in Paint Creek and Luster Heights Units. Some trails are multi-use and bikers should yield to hikers and horseback riders. All trails in Paint Rock Unit are hiking only.



## 1 (a-b). Wapsi-Great Western Line & Old Roundhouse Trail



- Trail Access Parking**
- 1a. Wapsi-Great Western Line Trail
    - MN/IA Border, 3043 500th St., McIntire
    - Ghost Town of Bailey, 3122 485th St., McIntire
    - Pinicon Alders WMA, 3134 470th St., McIntire
    - Lake Hendricks, 9850 Addison Ave., Riceville
    - WGWL Welcome Ctr, 310 East Main St., Riceville
    - Ghost Town of Acme, Douglas Ave. & 140th St.
    - Lylah's Marsh, Along Lylah's Rd., Elma
  - 1b. Old Roundhouse Trail
    - Elma Welcome Ctr, 416 Busti Ave., Elma

**Location:** Mitchell & Howard Counties | **Length:** 27+ miles | **Surface:** Paved Trail | **Difficulty:** Varies  
**Description:** The Wapsi-Great Western Line Trail follows 27 flat miles along the former Chicago Great Western Railroad and meets the Old Roundhouse trail near Elma. The trail passes through a variety of picturesque landscapes, including rolling hills, trestle bridges, agricultural fields, Amish farmsteads, prairies, marshes, and woodlands. Users will ride by numerous parks, playgrounds, lakes, campgrounds, and other amenities.

## 12. Volga River State Recreation Area

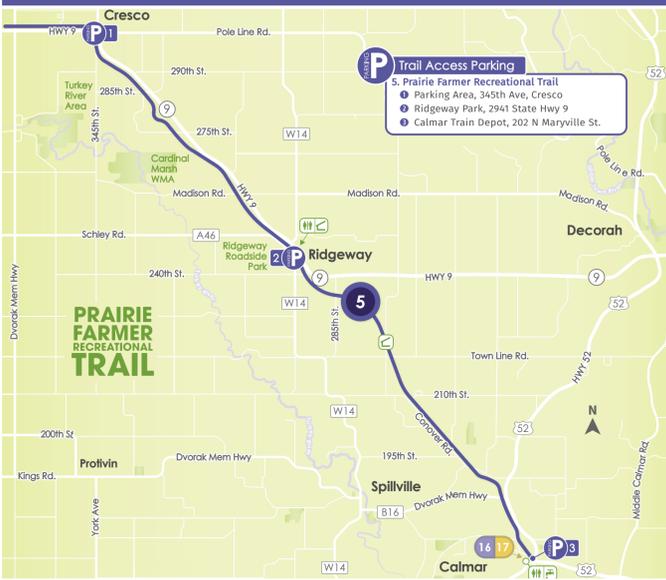


- Trail Access Parking**
- 12. Volga River Rec Area, 10225 Ivy Rd, Fayette
    - Lakeview Campground
    - Scenic Overlook
    - Albany Equestrian Campground
    - Jade Rd. (North)
    - Jade Rd. (South)
    - Cardinal Park, Old N. Main St.

**Location:** Fayette County | **Length:** 20 miles | **Surface:** Soft | **Difficulty:** Varies  
**Description:** Striking rock formations, prairie areas, natural woodlands, and abundant wildlife characterize the rugged topography of the 5,700 acres that make up Volga River State Recreation Area. Two campgrounds, Frog Hollow Lake, and the Volga River provide fishing, paddling, boating, and camping opportunities.



## 5. Prairie Farmer Recreational Trail

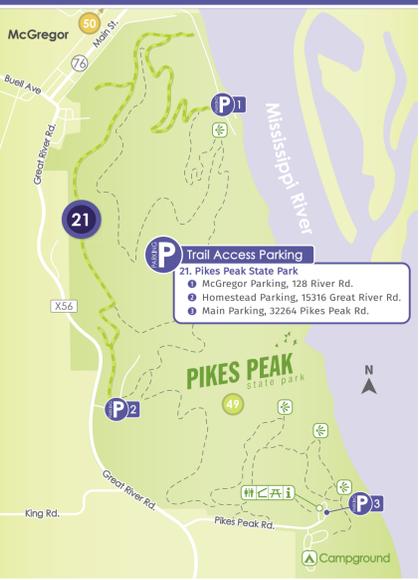


- Trail Access Parking**
- 5. Prairie Farmer Recreational Trail
    - Parking Area, 345th Ave, Cresco
    - Ridgeway Park, 2941 State Hwy 9
    - Calmar Train Depot, 202 N Maryville St.

**Location:** Winneshiek & Howard County | **Length:** 20 miles | **Surface:** Paved Trail | **Difficulty:** Easy  
**Description:** The Prairie Farmer Recreational Trail stretches from Cresco through Ridgeway to Calmar along scenic woodlands, meadows, and agricultural land. The quiet trail primarily follows the abandoned Milwaukee Railroad line for a smooth, flat, and easy twenty-mile ride that offers great opportunities for viewing native wildflowers and wildlife. The trail is named for a radio show once broadcast in the Midwest and is well-marked with emergency signage.



## 21. Pikes Peak State Park



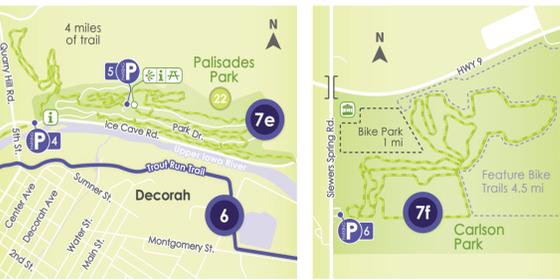
- Trail Access Parking**
- 21. Pikes Peak State Park
    - McGregor Parking, 128 River Rd.
    - Homestead Parking, 15316 Great River Rd.
    - Main Parking, 32264 Pikes Peak Rd.

**Location:** McGregor in Clayton County | **Length:** 11 miles / 2.8 Miles of Mtn Bike Trail  
**Surface:** Single-Track | **Difficulty:** Varies | **Description:** Pikes Peak State Park is one of Iowa's premier destinations, located along a National Scenic Byway and famed for its stunning views. The Point Ant Trail offers challenging mountain biking. All other trails are hiking only, but provide breathtaking views of Bridal Veil Falls or the confluence of the Mississippi and Wisconsin Rivers.

## 7 (c-f). Decarah Mountain Bike Trails



- Trail Access Parking**
- 7c. Dunning's Spring Park
    - Dunning's Spring Park, Ice Cave Rd.
    - Parking Area, Quarry Hill Rd. (South)
  - 7d. Van Peenen Park
    - Parking Area, Quarry Hill Rd. (North)
  - 7e. Palisades Park
    - Palisades Park, 2566 Ice Cave Rd.
    - Palisades Park, Park Dr.
  - 7f. Carlson Park
    - Parking Area, 1079 Pleasant Ave.



**Location:** Decarah in Winneshiek County | **Length:** 30+ miles | **Surface:** Single-Track & Soft | **Difficulty:** Varies  
**Description:** More than twenty miles of scenic, well-maintained, and challenging single-track and soft trails twist, loop, and climb throughout 450 wooded park acres. Detailed trail signs aid navigation and include loop and route maps, directional arrows, difficulty ratings, safety considerations, and points of interest.

## 11. Gilbertson Conservation Education Area



- Trail Access Parking**
- 11. Gilbertson Education Area, Elgin
    - Campground, 1810 Agate Rd.
    - Nature Center, 22580 A Ave.

**Location:** Elgin in Fayette County | **Length:** 10 miles | **Surface:** Soft Trail | **Difficulty:** Medium  
**Description:** Nine miles of multi-use trails are located within 1,000 acres situated along the Turkey River and lined with streams, prairies, river bottoms, and limestone bluffs. Other amenities include a campground, pavilion, restrooms, natural playscape, nature center, fishing pond, historic buildings, and a summer petting zoo.

## 18. Mt. Hosmer City Park

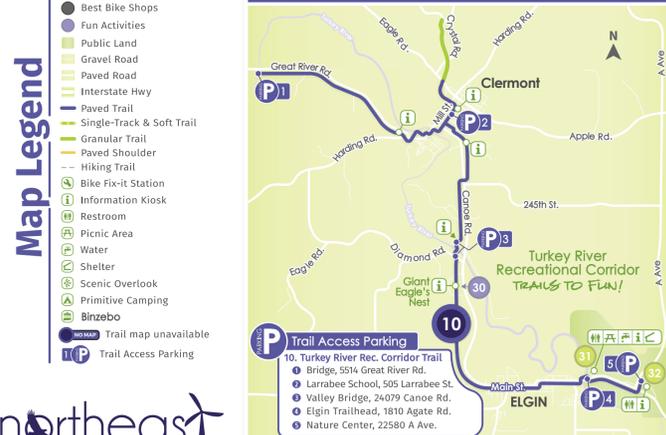


- Trail Access Parking**
- 18. Mt. Hosmer City Park
    - Mt. Hosmer City Park, 271 Main St.
    - Lansing Pool, 481 Bench St.

**Location:** Lansing in Allamakee County | **Length:** 8 miles | **Surface:** Single-Track  
**Difficulty:** Varies | **Description:** Mt. Hosmer offers spectacular panoramic views of the Mississippi River. It is named after Harriet Hosmer, a young female passenger on a cargo steamboat in 1851 that won a barefoot race to the top of the bluff against the ship's male crew members.



## 10. Turkey River Rec. Corridor Trail



- Trail Access Parking**
- 10. Turkey River Rec. Corridor Trail
    - Bridge, 551 Great River Rd.
    - Larrabee School, 505 Larrabee St.
    - Valley Bridge, 24099 Canoe Rd.
    - Elgin Trailhead, 1810 Agate Rd.
    - Nature Center, 22580 A Ave.

**Location:** Elgin/Clermont in Fayette County  
**Length:** 7 miles  
**Surface:** Paved Trail  
**Difficulty:** Easy  
**Description:** The Turkey River Recreational Corridor connects three communities (Clermont, Elgin, and Elkader) and two counties (Clayton and Fayette) that are all linked by the scenic beauty of the Turkey River. The trail between Clermont and Elgin takes riders through two downtown communities while showcasing the wooded hills, rich farmland, abundant wildlife, historic landmarks, and cultural and outdoor experiences found within the Turkey River Recreational Corridor. A life-size eagle's nest public art piece, numerous shelters and parks, and interpretive kiosks are located along the trail.



## 27. Backbone State Park



- Trail Access Parking**
- 27. Backbone State Park, 1347 129th St.
    - Richmond Springs, 410 St. (North)
    - Caves, 410 St. (South)
    - Flats, 120th St.
    - Six Pines Campground, 120th St.
    - South Lake Campground, 129th St.
    - Parking Area, 1383 129th St.
    - Beach, 1381 129th St.

**Location:** Clayton County | **Length:** 21 miles  
**Surface:** Single-Track | **Difficulty:** Varies  
**Description:** Dedicated in 1920, Backbone was Iowa's first state park and remains one of the most geologically unique. It is named for the Devil's Backbone, a steep, narrow ridge of bedrock that is the highest point in Northeast Iowa. The designated biking trails (Barred Owl, Bluebird, East Lake, and West Lake) offer a robust and challenging trek through picturesque natural beauty.



## 9. West Union, Echo Valley, & Jensen Trails



- Trail Access Parking**
- 9. Jensen Trail
    - 103 S Walnut St.
    - Glover's Creek Side, 9680 Echo Valley Rd.
    - Echo Valley Side, 9672 Echo Valley Rd.
    - Parking Area, 21999 Hornet Rd.

**Location:** West Union in Fayette County | **Length:** 3.75 miles | **Surface:** Paved Trail & Granular Trail | **Difficulty:** Easy  
**Description:** The City of West Union is directly connected by paved trail through a beautiful city-owned public recreation area and the Fayette County Conservation-managed Echo Valley State Park. Once in the State Park, visitors can continue on a granular trail and explore the preserved historical structures, hand built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the 1930s. Additional opportunities in the park include trout fishing, picnicking, and primitive camping.

## 16. Three Elms Area



- Trail Access Parking**
- 16. Three Elms County Park
    - Parking Area, 20413 Elms Park Rd.

**Location:** Independence in Buchanan County | **Length:** 1 mile  
**Surface:** Single-Track | **Difficulty:** Varies | **Description:** The Three Elms Trail is one-way. Be sure to follow arrows and stop at all stop signs. No riding during events at the area's archery range.

- Map Legend**
- Visitor Welcome Center
  - Parks & the Outdoors
  - Best Bike Shops
  - Fun Activities
  - Public Land
  - Gravel Road
  - Paved Road
  - Interstate Hwy
  - Paved Trail
  - Single-Track & Soft Trail
  - Granular Trail
  - Paved Shoulder
  - Hiking Trail
  - Bike Fix-It Station
  - Information Kiosk
  - Restroom
  - Picnic Area
  - Water
  - Shelter
  - Scenic Overlook
  - Primitive Camping
  - Bikezoo
  - Trail map unavailable
  - Trail Access Parking

**northeast**  
 The BEST part of IOWA

This bike guide was sponsored and supported by NEITA, Northeast Iowa Tourism Association. NEITA is a regional collaborative group that works together to promote tourism for the region.

We invite you to come explore our beautiful corner of the state on two wheels and enjoy all of our bike-friendly destinations. Questions? We are happy to assist you with travel planning and would love to answer any questions you might have, mail you a brochure, offer suggestions for your trip, assist with directions, or anything that will make your planning easier. Please allow us to be of assistance! We can be contacted by visiting [www.visioniowa.org](http://www.visioniowa.org).