Elkhart River Greenway Trail

A good route for	Casual bikers and walkers (trail only) Confident, but cautious bikers and walkers (extended route)
General location	Central Elkhart
Route access points	 a) Elkhart Environmental Center b) Studebaker Park c) Joanne Drive
Route length	1.9 miles • one-way • trail only 6.1 miles • loop • trail and road

Follow this trail along the Elkhart River and you will forget that you are in the middle of a city. The 120-acre greenway is home to deer, river otter, muskrat, beaver, coyote, fox, pileated woodpeckers, screech owls, and nesting wood ducks. Bird watchers may find many migrating species. Start at the Elkhart Environmental Center where you can learn about local wildlife, view eco-friendly building models, or take a yoga class. Heading north, you will end at Studebaker Park, a popular choice for pick-up soccer games and afternoon picnics.

For those interested in exploring a little further, this guide recommends an additional loop around American Park and Rice Park. The roads on this route are low-traffic and are a nice way to dip into some quiet Elkhart neighborhoods.







Everyone has a different reason for getting on the trail or taking off on a county road. Knowing what you most enjoy about biking and walking will help you choose the right route.

Each route in the 2017 Biking and Walking in Elkhart County Guide recommends the type of biker or walker that may want to try it out. For example, if you know that you want to take it easy and stop to watch ducks along the river, look for the "Casual" recommendations.



CONFIDENT, BUT CAUTIOUS

- Your route is mostly on trail and sidewalk.
- Some sections require merging with car traffic, but only on local, low-traffic roads.
- You will often be in busier parts of town, close to some good food and entertainment.



CASUAL

- Your route is entirely on off-road trails.
- Expect very few road crossings, if any, and lots of opportunities to view wildlife.
- You will be in the quieter, slow-paced corners of our communities.



- Your route is mostly on county roads, but you will also see sections of our off-road trails.
- Some routes have long, straight stretches great for getting in training mileage. Some will require more navigation.
- You will be in the rural areas of the county, passing Amish farms and corn fields.



Need to make a connection? Check out the Interurban Trolley map and schedule at **interurbantrolley.com**. You can secure up to two bikes on a rack located on the front or back of any Trolley. Then, sit back and relax awhile.

Note: Bicycles are not allowed inside the Trolley. If the rack is full, you must wait for the next available Trolley. Regular fare is \$1.00 per person for each one way trip. Children 5 and under ride free when traveling with an adult. Does your bike need a tuneup? Do you need new gear or want to rent a bike for the day? These locally-owned businesses can help you.

Pumpkinvine Cyclery

413 N Main St, Middlebury Tu-F: 10–6, Sat: 9–4 (574) 825-2252 pumpkinvinecyclery.com

Family Bicycle Center

3410 S Main St, Elkhart M-F: 9–6, Sat: 9–4 (574) 294-2865 familybicyclecenter.com

Lincoln Ave Cycling

430 W Lincoln Ave, Goshen M-F: 10–6, Sat: 9–4 (574) 533-7425 lincolnavenuecycling.com

Elkhart Bicycle Shop

401 E Jackson Blvd, Elkhart M-F: 10–6, Sat: 9–3 (574) 294-7243 allaboutcycling.net

Want to connect to a community bicycle shop or advocacy group?

Chain Reaction Bicycle Project 510 E Washington St, Goshen (574) 903-3056 crbp.org

Pedal Power Bike Shop 1320 Prairie St, Elkhart (574) 361-0009

Bike Elkhart bikeelkhart.org

Bike Michiana Coalition bikemichiana.org

Gear Up

You can walk and bike in any weather if you have the right gear!

Walking in the rain can be a very relaxing activity, but only if you are dressed right. Wear a venting jacket with hood, waterproof boots, and two pairs of socks. Carry a water-proof bag for items that should not get wet.

Bicyclists should invest in a good riding poncho that attaches over the handlebars to keep your legs dry. Fenders with mud flaps and water-proof shoe covers are well worth the money, too.

The key to walking and biking in cold weather is wearing several layers so you can remove some as your body warms up. Overheating is a real concern, so remember to wear breathable materials. Wide bike tires with tread are a necessity to bike in snow.

