

PONTIAC

At the turn of the century, the City of Pontiac served as the crossroads of railroad transit in Oakland County. Today, the city's portion of the Clinton River Trail begins at the Sylvan Lake border and runs northeast toward Pontiac's Historic Downtown. While traveling along this section, trail users will cross over Telegraph Road and pass by Beaudette Park where parking, restrooms, picnic areas, and boating and fishing facilities are available. Continuing east from Beaudette Park, the trail parallels and crosses over a portion of the Clinton River in a wooded setting before emerging into a primarily residential area at Bagley Street. This is the junction of the Downtown Pontiac Spur to the north and the Temporary Pontiac Route to the south.



Riders gather at Beaudette Park

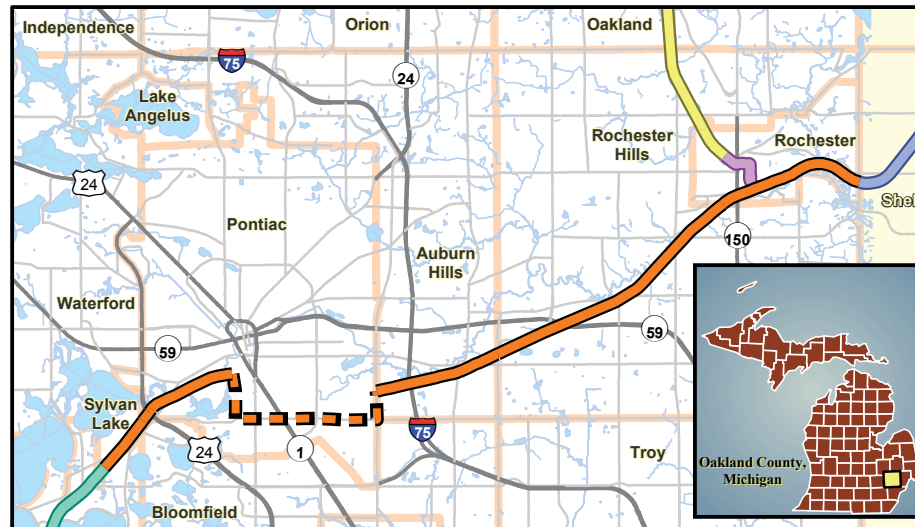


Historic Downtown Pontiac

Until the entire northern route is constructed, the Temporary Route (see map) will be in place along Bagley Street to South Blvd to Opdyke Road and link to the Auburn Hills portion of the Clinton River Trail.

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ROCHESTER

As it rides the 1879 rail bed of the Michigan Airline Railroad, later to be acquired by the Grand Trunk Railroad, the Clinton River Trail enters Rochester following a much older route of transportation, the Clinton River. Surfaced with crushed limestone, Rochester's 2.5 mile portion of the Clinton River Trail runs parallel to the meandering river, crossing both Paint Creek and Stony Creek. In Rochester, Clinton River Trail users have access to the Paint Creek Trail via the Downtown Rochester River Walk, as well as the Macomb Orchard Trail to the east. Portions of the trail provide users with forest views, vistas of the Clinton River, and frequent wildlife sightings, including deer, red tailed hawks, groundhog, and fox.



View of the Stony Creek from the trail



Looking west at the newly surfaced trail

SYLVAN LAKE

Once a part of the first interurban railroad service in Oakland County, this portion of the Clinton River Trail now provides a non-motorized linkage from the West Bloomfield Trail to Pontiac. The trail begins at Sylvan Manor Park and cuts through the southern portion of Sylvan Lake in a southwest-northeast direction on its way to the City of Pontiac. As you travel along the trail through Sylvan Lake, you can explore the City's main commercial district along Orchard Lake Rd. This 1.25-mile section of trail connects neighborhoods with local businesses, City Hall, schools and recreational facilities.



City Hall adjacent to the trail

commercial district along Orchard Lake Rd.



Out for a walk on a brisk winter day



Clinton River Trail near City Hall

AUBURN HILLS

Opened in 2003, the Auburn Hills portion of the Clinton River Trail is 2.2 miles in length and runs east-west between Adams Rd. and Opdyke Rd. The 25-acre linear park is highlighted by a pedestrian bridge spanning I-75 that connects neighborhoods, schools and the Village Center Area in the city. The unique trail surface comprised of asphalt millings is ideal for biking, walking, jogging and cross-country skiing. Several off-street pathways link to the trail in various locations throughout the city. Parking is available at the trailhead located on the east side of Opdyke Rd., 1/2 mile north of South Blvd.



Pedestrian bridge spanning I-75



Trail enthusiasts out on a bright summer day



Trailhead at Opdyke Road

ROCHESTER HILLS

The Clinton River Trail bisects the City of Rochester Hills. The habitat along this 4.5-mile portion of the trail is unique in its diversity and creates many opportunities to view and enjoy a host of wildlife species. Deer are common in the brush, muskrats and mink can be seen in the many wetlands, and the oak forests are home to numerous mammals and birds. This trail is an important wildlife corridor and connects the centrally located Avon Nature Study Area to Riverbend Park in the west and Bloomer Park in the east, all of which provide access to the Clinton River. Yates Cider Mill, Meadow Brook Hall at Oakland University, the Velodrome at Bloomer Park, and Rochester College are all places of interest to stop and visit along the way.



Yates Cider Mill near the trail Nature Study Area to Riverbend Park in the west and Bloomer Park in the east, all of which provide access to the Clinton River. Yates Cider Mill, Meadow Brook Hall at Oakland University, the Velodrome at Bloomer Park, and Rochester College are all places of interest to stop and visit along the way.



Velodrome at Bloomer Park



Clinton River Trail in the fall of 2004

About Friends of the Clinton River Trail

We are a group of residents committed to the vision of a trail that is a safe and enjoyable recreational feature for the communities through which it passes.

We intend to accomplish this by:

- Building community support and awareness for the trail
- Supporting local government efforts to develop, operate and maintain the trail
- Regular meetings to identify opportunities and develop action plans

For more information:

- Visit our website: www.clintonrivertrail.org
- Join Friends of the Clinton River Trail
- Follow us on Facebook and Twitter
- E-mail us at: info@clintonrivertrail.org
- Attend our meetings

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION