



A bikepacker cruises down the newly paved section of the White Pine Trail near Stanwood.

Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park

This will be a triumphant year for everyone who loves the White Pine Trail. After 30 years of fundraising and planning, the ultimate dream of a fully developed trail is finally coming to fruition.

In the fall of 2023, the 22-mile unfinished section from Howard City to Big Rapids was paved with rubberized asphalt and nearly completed. During construction, three culverts collapsed under the weight of heavy machinery and needed to be replaced, which delayed paving. One culvert between M-46 and Yankee Road was replaced with a new bridge. This section should be paved by Memorial Day weekend this spring. In a 3.5-mile section between Angling and New Millpond Roads (south of Big Rapids), one culvert was replaced and the other repaired. That section of trail was paved in October. All of the other sections have been completed and ready for your enjoyment.

Established in 1995, the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park is the longest linear state park in Michigan. "The Great White Pine" stretches 92 miles from Comstock Park (near Grand Rapids) on the former Michigan Northern section of the Penn Central Railroad to Cadillac, passing through 31 cities, villages and townships.

When you head north on the White Pine Trail, you'll discover a quiet, scenic corridor that takes you through several trailside parks, quaint villages, farms, meadows, wetlands, shady tunnels of trees, wide expanses of unspoiled nature and, as advertised, towering stands of mature white pine forest.

The entire length of trail runs parallel to US-131, providing easy access along its route. And because it was built on an abandoned railroad, the grade is fairly flat and well suited for people of all physical abilities. Each section of trail has its own natural features and unique personality. In the following pages we will introduce you to each section of this magnificent trail.



This new bridge was built last fall between M-46 and Yankee Road. This section should be paved in the spring of 2025, marking the complete paving of the entire 92-mile trail.

