



A rider passes by the CCC Museum on the new Forest Heritage Trail.

Grayling Bicycle Turnpike

The 10.2-mile Grayling Bicycle Turnpike (a.k.a. Wayne C. Koppa Trail) begins (or ends) at the entrance to Hartwick Pines State Park, taking you on a scenic tour on its way to downtown Grayling and across the Au Sable River to Hanson Hills Recreation area. The Turnpike lives up to its name. The 10-foot-wide paved nonmotorized trail runs parallel to roads along its route, but is relatively curvy for most of its length as it follows the contours of the rolling hills near the state park and zigzags through groves of pines near the airfield.

At North Down River Road the trail becomes a designated bike lane on both sides of McClellan Street as it heads south about a half mile into downtown Grayling. At the traffic light, the off-road paved trail resumes on the south side of M-72 and continues west to Ole Dam Road/M-93. At this point you have traveled about 8 miles. To continue on the 2.2-mile loop past Hanson Hills Recreation Area, head south on the designated bike lane on M-93 and ride Old Lake Road to reconnect with the paved trail on M-72.

Hanson Hills Recreation Area is also a good place to begin your ride from the south or explore over 20 miles of mountain biking trails and over 35 kilometers of hiking and groomed Nordic ski trails.

Forest Heritage Trail

Dedicated on May 23, 2024, the 19-mile Forest Heritage Trail runs from North Higgins Lake State Park to Hartwick Pines State Park through second-growth forest on a series of road routes, paved and limestone paths, and a portion of the Grayling Bicycle Turnpike. Along the way, you will encounter 19 interpretive panels that explore the forest heritage of the Grayling area. The 2.54-mile southern section, from the CCC Museum to Fletcher Road, is surfaced with finely crushed limestone. You must then ride 4.8 miles north on Old Highway 27 to Four Mile Road and the campus of Kirtland Community College. From there, the newly paved trail continues north for 4.83 miles (including one challenging hill) to a railroad crossing in Grayling. To connect with the Grayling Bicycle Turnpike, and continue on to Hartwick Pines State Park, you will need to ride north through a residential area on State and Maple Streets, Michigan Avenue and west on North Downriver Road. It is the newest of five state-designated "Heritage Trails" in Michigan.

North Higgins Lake Trail

A great amenity for families visiting or camping at North Higgins Lake State Park, the 1.76-mile North Higgins Lake Trail travels east/west through the state park and white pine forest from West Higgins Lake Road to a convenience store at Bay City Avenue. Short and sweet, this paved scenic pathway is nicely landscaped and includes a connecting trail to the Forest Heritage Trail and CCC Museum on North Higgins Lake Drive.

