



Musketawa Trail

The Ottawa County segment of the Musketawa Trail, from the Marne Trailhead to Squires Road, will be closed this summer as crews replace several culverts and bridges and repave the aging trail surface.

Traveling from the Marne Trailhead to Muskegon, the 26-mile Musketawa Trail is a slice of pure Americana. This former stretch of the Central Michigan Railroad was acquired in 1992 and transformed into a rail trail through the efforts of the Friends of the Musketawa Trail. It's a peaceful ride or run past quintessential farms with plenty of birds, butterflies and natural beauty to keep you entertained along the way. The entire length of the trail is paved with asphalt.

Set against the backdrop of rural America, your journey takes you through small country towns and wide expanses of farm fields, marshes and shady woodlands. Along the way, the trail features 12 wooden trestles, a 200-foot bridge over Crockery Creek in Ravenna, and five observation decks. The "Friends" have also added a railroad depot and museum, crossing signs, a restored water tower and red caboose at the Ravenna Staging Area.

When you reach Black Creek Drive at the industrial park in Muskegon, continue west on the Laketon Trail, which then continues west to connect with the Muskegon Lakeshore Trail and on to Lake Michigan. The entire trail is open to snowmobiling and cross-country skiing during the winter season from the Marne trailhead to Muskegon.

The Fred Meijer Pioneer Trail travels from Comstock Park to the Marne Trailhead.

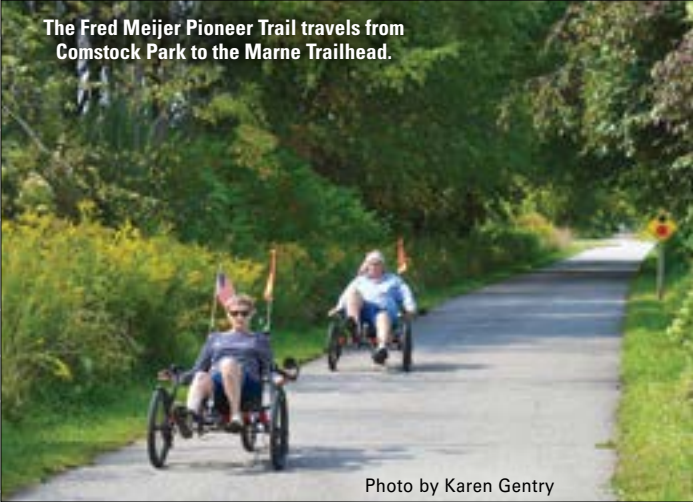
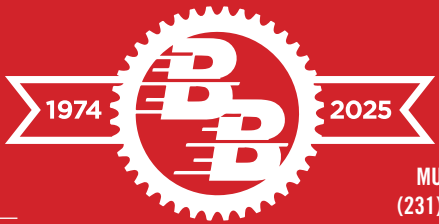


Photo by Karen Gentry

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1 See location on map.

Fred Meijer Pioneer Trail

The last mile of the Fred Meijer Pioneer Trail was completed in 2020 along West River Drive, creating a seamless connection between the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park in Comstock Park to the Musketawa Trail near Marne. Together, the two trails form an important nonmotorized link between the Grand Rapids and the Muskegon metro area trail systems.

The entire length of the Fred Meijer Pioneer Trail is paved, travelling through a scenic landscape of farms, woodlands and urban neighborhoods, including a tunnel under Fruit Ridge Avenue. About four miles of the trail runs parallel to the Coopersville & Marne Railway. As you pass by Meijer corporate headquarters, at the intersection of Walker Avenue, you will see memorial with a statue of Fred Meijer seated on a bench – acknowledging his contributions to the Michigan trails movement. Stop and get a selfie with Fred.



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