

Paint Creek Trail

Follow along Paint Creek from Rochester to Lake Orion on the 8.9-mile Paint Creek Trail – a pleasant ride or run through a shady canopy of trees and over 12 restored railroad bridges. This popular trail attracts over 100,000 users each year.

The Paint Creek Trail Commission purchased the abandoned railway from the Penn Central Railroad in 1983 to create Michigan's first non-motorized rail trail. The trail is nicely landscaped and surfaced with asphalt through the city of Rochester where it travels under a bridge along Paint Creek. The trail north of Rochester is surfaced with finely screened and compacted limestone. Equestrian use is permitted north of Rochester Hills.

Paint Creek to Polly Ann Connector Trail

On November 9, 2020, a ribboncutting ceremony on the Van Tassel Pedestrian Bridge officially opened the Paint Creek to Polly Ann Connector Trail. From the bridge, a massive serpentine boardwalk spans the Paint Creek ravine and ascends a bluff to a paved pathway that follows along Clarkston Road, connecting these two popular community trails.

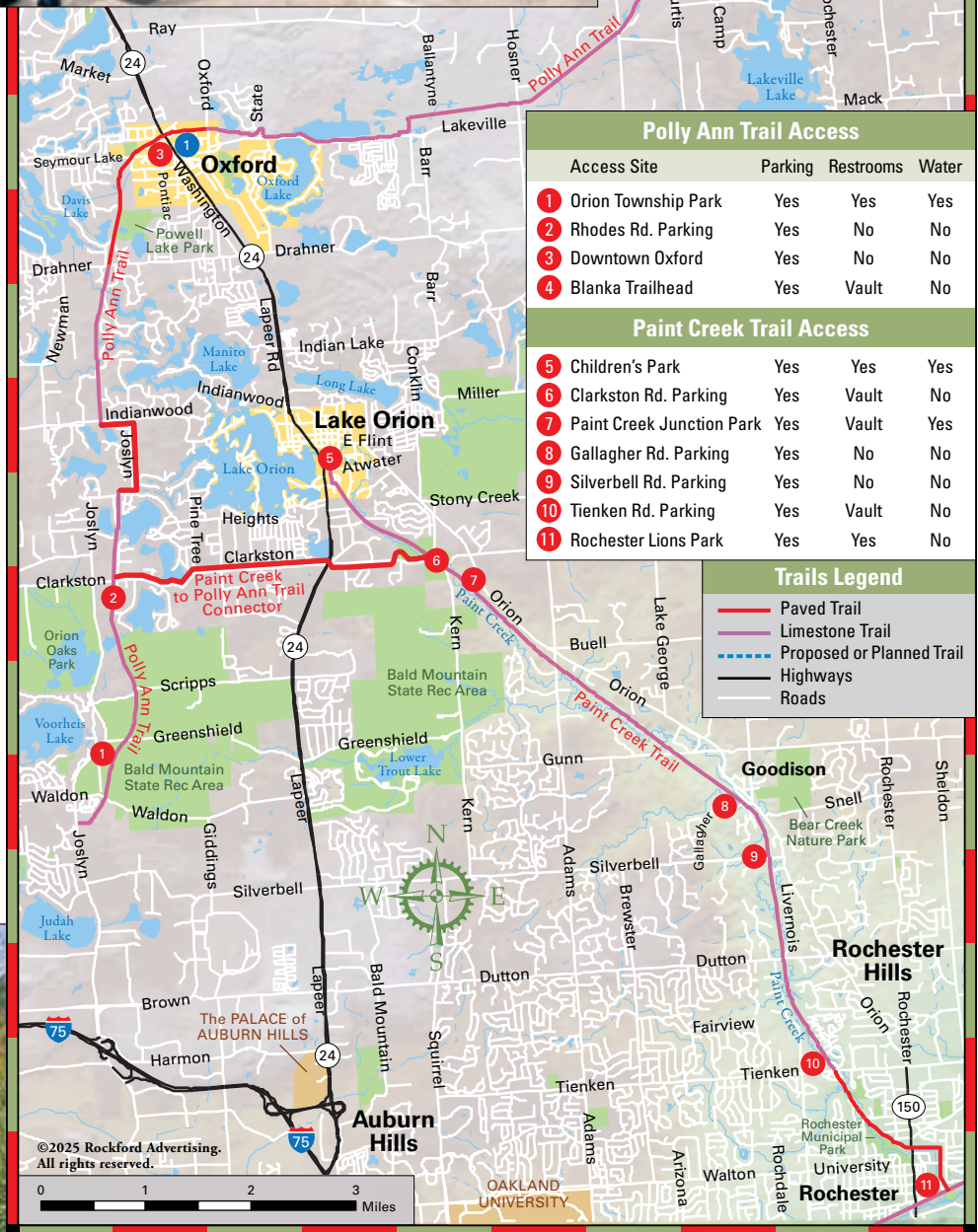
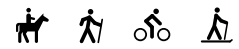
Polly Ann Trail

The 16.9-mile Polly Ann Trail takes you on a ride through rural northern Oakland County from Orion Township Park to the Lapeer County line. The trail was built on the abandoned Pontiac, Oxford & Northern Railroad that originally ran from Pontiac to Caseville. The trail's name comes from the dubious nickname for the PO&N Railroad, which was never profitable and rarely arrived on time.

The Sunday Polly Ann Pedalers pause for a photo on the Oxford Bridge.



Photo by Richard & Ruth Ann Dudley



The Licht men explore the Polly Ann Trail.



Photo by Melonie Licht

The trail passes through a mix of wetlands and suburban neighborhoods south of Oxford on a hard surface of finely screened and compacted limestone. Through the city of Oxford, the trail is paved with asphalt and features a bridge over Lapeer Road (M-24). North of Oxford, you'll ride on a limestone surface through mostly wooded terrain on its way to Leonard. At Bordman Road, the trail crosses into Lapeer County where the trail is currently undeveloped. Equestrian use is permitted from Oxford to Bordman Road.