

Wabash & Erie Canal Park

1030 N. Washington Street, Delphi, Indiana 46923

765.564.6572 / www.wabashanderiecanal.org /

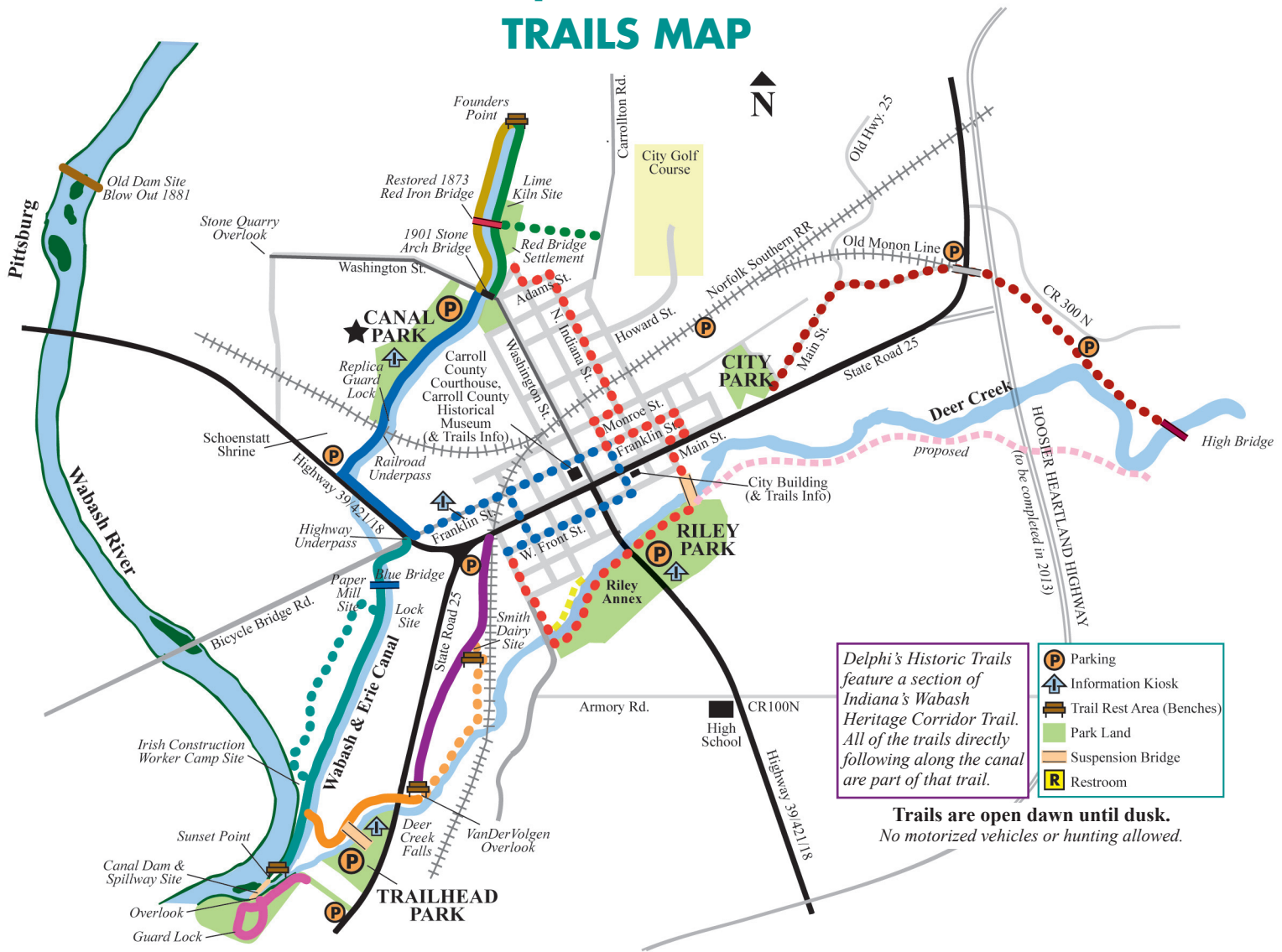
Nestled in the valley of the Wabash River in northwest central Indiana lies Delphi. In the 1850s era of canal boats, this Carroll County town was once a booming home to commerce. Today, Delphi is once again in an exciting period of growth and revitalization. The newly designated Delphi Courthouse Square National Register Historic District welcomes visitors with antique stores, shops, and restaurants.

The 10 mile Delphi Historic Trails system is comprised of eight miles of rural, "open" space and two miles of urban "street" trails. Trail routes run along the Wabash River, Deer Creek and watered remnants of the Wabash & Erie Canal. They also take hikers and bikers past architectural gems in residential areas and in the Courthouse Square Historic District.

Get a full trails map & brochure at the Wabash & Erie Canal Center.

Trail descriptions on back>

Delphi, Indiana TRAILS MAP



Directions (to Canal Park)

From Interstate 65, take exit 175 in Lafayette at State Road 25 going northeast to Delphi. At the Courthouse stoplight, turn left onto Washington Street. Canal Park is 11 blocks north.

From Logansport, take SR 25 southwest to Delphi. At the Courthouse stoplight, turn right onto Washington Street. Canal Park is 11 blocks north.

Trail Descriptions

Founders Towpath Trail – .5 mile

Between North Washington Street and Founders Point, this trail runs along the west side of the beautiful, watered section of the canal, joining the Draper Trail at the “tumble.” Here, three million gallons of fresh water from the Delphi Limestone Company’s diversion pumps enter the canal daily.

Draper North End Trail – .5 mile

Between Founders Point and North Washington Street, this trail runs past the National Register Harley and Hubbard Lime Kiln site, where locally quarried limestone was “burned” to produce mortar, plaster and whitewash in the canal era. The trail also passes the warehouse where the canal boat is housed.

Belt Railroad Trail – .3 mile

Between the North End Trail and Carrollton Road, this trail follows a century old path of the Delphi Commercial Club rail line. Here, the Harley Brothers Lime Kilns and Delphi Ice Plant operated into the 20th century. At the junction with Carrollton Road, the Wabash River Scenic Route and the Wabash Heritage Corridor Trail begins heading 5 miles north to Carrollton Bridge where canal boats crossed the Wabash.

Underhill Towpath Trail – .9 mile

Between Highway 421 and North Washington Street, this trail crosses over the Wabash and Erie Canal and runs through the heart of Canal Park along a very popular section of the canal.

VanScoy Towpath Trail – 1.0 miles

Between Highway 421 and Sunset Point, this trail contains many breathtaking views and historic sites. At the southern end is “Sunset Point”, overlooking where Deer Creek meets the Wabash. A rest area provides the hiker a serene view every season of the year. Along the way, you’ll pass Canal Lock #33 and the 1838-39 Irish Canal Construction Camp, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places, as well as the site of two prosperous paper mills that operated in the mid 1800s.

Obear Millrace Loop Trail – .6 mile

A side trail off the VanScoy, this trail overlooks the Wabash River and then traces the channel up to the paper mill sites before rejoining it again. The mills received their power from the surplus canal water which then exited to the river.

Robbins Trail – .5 mile

Connecting the VanScoy Towpath Trail with Interurban Trail and Happy Jack’s Loop, this trail runs past the end of a suspension bridge in Trailhead Park, under SR 25, and past beautiful Deer Creek Falls. Lined with tall sycamore and cottonwood trees, it traces Deer Creek along the shale bluff that once was the edge of a man-made lake used to convey canal boats across the valley. This thinly layered dark stone bluff protruded almost to the Wabash River.

Happy Jack’s Loop – .5 mile

A loop trail off the Interurban, this beautiful trail runs between the old Smith Dairy Farm site and the east end of the Robbins Trail at Deer Creek Falls, tracing along the north bank of Deer Creek.

Interurban Trail – .8 mile

Between SR 25 and VanDerVogen Overlook at Deer Creek Falls, this trail joins the Robbins Trail and offers scenic views. In the early 1900s, commuter electric trains, called “Interurbans,” ran on narrow tracks along the elevated portions of the current trail. The VanDerVolgen rest area, named in memory of a local blacksmith and canal volunteer, is on the high pillar of a bridge abutment overlooking beautiful Deer Creek Falls.

Downtown Loop Trail – .9 mile

Between 421 and points downtown, this urban trail connects the outlying trail system with the Delphi Courthouse Square National Register Historic District. It follows streets past beautiful and architecturally noteworthy residential and commercial buildings, including the Carroll County Courthouse. Antique stores, shops and restaurants dot this charming area.

Riley-City Trail – 1.5 mile

Between a point on the North End Trail to a junction with the Interurban Trail, this urban trail runs past many architecturally significant homes in Delphi and through Riley Park, named for Hoosier poet James Whitcomb Riley. The trail follows along and crosses Deer Creek twice (once over a suspension bridge), and under State Road 25 into more of Riley Park.

Campbell Ridge Trail – 1 mile loop

Begin and end at a small parking area along the west side of State Road 25, just south of Trailhead Park. A short hike up the slope reveals a high bluff overlooking the confluence of Deer Creek and the Wabash River, at one time a “slack water” crossing for canal boats. The very last canal boat to reach this site in 1874 met an unfortunate end when it crashed into the rotting wooden spillway and collapsed the dam, dumping the boat, mules, driver and cargo into the Wabash.

Monon High Bridge Trail – 1.5 mile

Between City Park on East Main Street and High Bridge, this trail traces along part of the abandoned Monon Railroad line. At the top of the slope, where Old Camden Road meets the railroad, is the Centennial Stone, dedicated to General Samuel Milroy, who platted Delphi in 1828. A mile beyond the highway overpass is High Bridge, Indiana’s second highest railroad trestle.

Pioneer Road Trail – (proposed)

Between Riley Park and Slate Bluff, along Deer Creek.

Interurban Extension Trail – (proposed)

Following Deer Creek along the historic electric railway.

**For more information, contact us at 765.564.6572
or visit www.wabashanderiecanal.org**