

Grand Region - South Road and Trail Bicycling Guide

2ND EDITION



Counties of:
Allegan - Barry - Ionia
Kent - Muskegon - Ottawa

\$5.00 VALUE

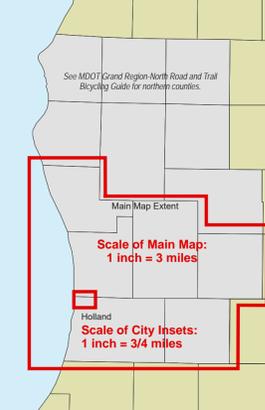


Before You Use This Map

This guide has been developed as an aid to bicyclists and is not intended to be a substitute for a person's use of reasonable care. The user of this map bears full responsibility for his or her safety. The Greenway Collaborative, Inc. makes no express or implied guarantee as to the safety or condition of the roads and paths shown and has no responsibility for maintaining them. Conditions indicated on the map are subject to change. Be prepared to make your own assessment of traffic, roads, and trails and plan routes appropriate to your riding skills.

All public and private entities and persons involved in the creation of this map disclaim responsibility and shall not be answerable or held accountable in any manner for loss, damage or injury that may be suffered as the result of the use of this map.

Reference Map



Legend

TRANSPORTATION NETWORK
Vehicle Traffic Volume* (Vehicles per day)

- Minor Roads/No Data**
- Light (under 2,500)
- Medium (2,500 - 10,000)
- Heavy (above 10,000)
- Primary Roads/No Data
- Limited Access Highway
- Active Rail Line
- Pere Marquette Amtrak***
- Ferry
- Short Ferry

BICYCLE AND SHARED USE PATHS

- Improved Shared Use Regional Path
- Paved or Crushed Fines
- Unimproved Shared Use Regional Path
- Gravel or Dirt
- Local Shared Use Path
- Foot Trail
- North Country Trail
- U.S. Bike Route

LAND USE

- County Boundary
- Incorporated City/Village Limit
- Federal Land/National Forest
- State of Michigan Lands
- Park (Local or County), Preserve or Wilderness Area
- Lakes/Water
- Rivers/Streams

SERVICES

CITY/VILLAGE NAME
Full Service (Food, and lodging)
City/Village Name
Some Services (Food, or lodging)

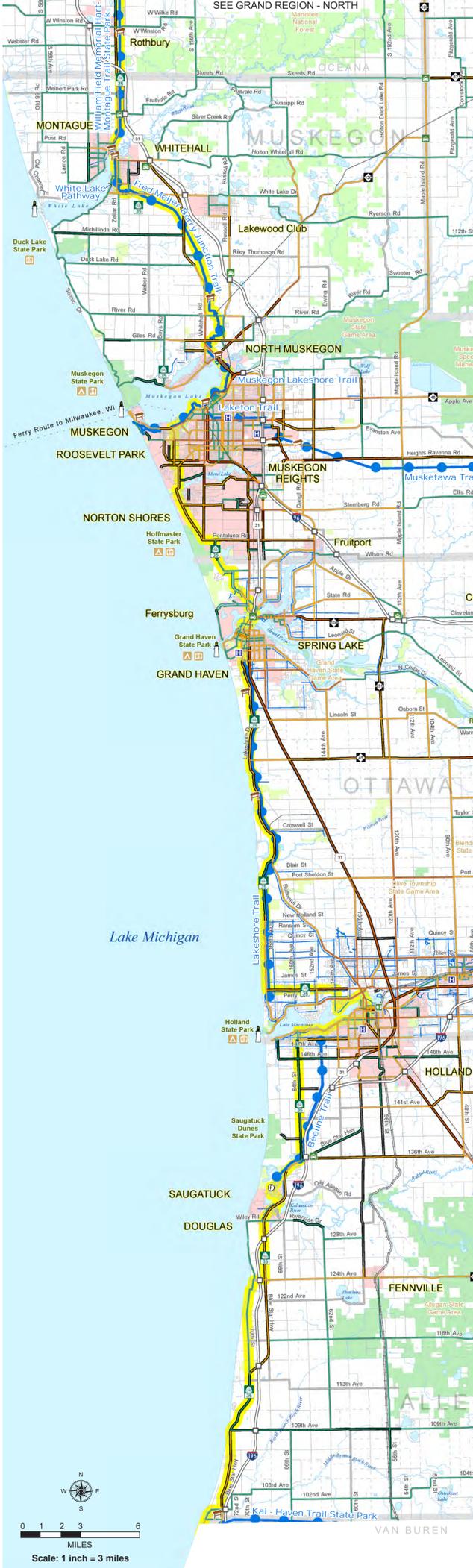
POINTS OF INTEREST

- Amtrak Station
- Hospital
- Lighthouse
- Carpool Parking Lot
- Trail Head
- University

Facilities within state parks and forests:

- Campground
- Mountain Biking
- Restrooms

Scale: 1 inch = 3 miles



Bicycle Resources

Michigan Department of Transportation
MDOT provides maps and other information on safe bicycling as well as guidance on how to transport bicycles on ferries and major bridges. www.michigan.gov/mdot-biking

West Michigan Trails and Greenways Coalition
WMT&GC is a non-profit group dedicated to developing nonmotorized trails and greenways. Their mission is to help coordinate regional trails and greenways infrastructure in order to connect communities with each other and to the regions natural areas and civic destinations. For more information on specific trails of West Michigan contact WMT&GC. www.wmtrails.org

League of Michigan Bicyclists
LMB is a non-profit membership organization, which promotes bicycling for recreation and transportation in Michigan. The LMB organizes annual Shoreline Bicycle Tours, publishes an annual poster calendar of cycling events statewide, distributes general cycling information and educates children and adults on safe cycling. The LMB works with MDOT and other state and local agencies to improve conditions for bicycling in Michigan. For more information contact the League of Michigan Bicyclists. (517) 334-9100 or (888) MI-BIKES www.lmb.org

Michigan Trails and Greenway Alliance
MTGA is a non-profit organization that fosters and facilitates the creation of an interconnected statewide system of trails and greenways for recreation, health, transportation, economic development and environmental and cultural preservation purposes. MTGA works at both the state and local levels by assisting public and private interests in trail and greenway planning, funding, development and maintenance. For more information please contact the Michigan Trails and Greenway Alliance. www.michigantrails.org

Michigan Mountain Biking Association
MMBA promotes responsible mountain biking and works toward the goals of common land access and natural resource protection. For information, contact the Michigan Mountain Biking Association. www.mmba.org

Michigan Department of Natural Resources
MDNR promotes the development of trail systems throughout the state. They work with local agencies in trail development, planning and design and administer a number of funding programs. Contact the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation division at (517) 284-7275. www.michigan.gov/dnr



Map Information

Map produced by the Greenway Collaborative, Inc. in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Transportation with funding from the Federal Highway Administration.

To order additional maps, please visit the Michigan Department of Transportation website at: www.michigan.gov/mdot-biking and select Maps and Brochures.

MDOT Planning
425 West Ottawa St.
P.O. Box 20050
Lansing, MI 48909

MDOT Grand Region Office
140 Front Avenue, NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

The Greenway Collaborative, Inc.

MDOT Michigan Department of Transportation

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

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Bicycle Safety

Rights and Responsibilities
In general, bicyclists on public roadways have the same rights and responsibilities as automobile drivers and are subject to the same state laws and local ordinances. For everyone's safety observe these bicycling rules and safety tips.

- Use a bell or horn
- Use white headlight at night
- Use wheel reflectors
- Wear a helmet
- Wear bright, reflective clothing
- Use flashing red rear light at night
- Use flashing red front light at night
- Use flashing red side light at night
- Use flashing red side light at night

Use Lights and Reflectors at Night
State law requires a white light visible for 500 feet and a red reflector visible for 600 feet at night. A flashing red light is recommended. More reflectors and stronger lights make you more visible.

Use Hand Signals
Hand signals tell pedestrians and motorists what you intend to do. It is state law that you use signals.

Carrying Stuff
If you plan on carrying any packages, bundles or objects, you must be able to keep both hands on the handlebars. A variety of racks, packs, and trailers can be fitted to your bicycle to transport goods.

Be Courteous and Respectful on Trails
Show courtesy to all trail users. Adhere to trail hours and restrictions. Respect the rights of property owners along the trail.

Watch for Cars
Always assume that motorists do not see you. Keep an eye out for cars pulling into traffic from parking spaces, driveways and intersecting streets. Make eye contact to assess your safety before proceeding in front of vehicle. Watch out for car doors opening into travel lane.

Watch for Hazards
Watch out for sewer grates, slippery manhole covers, oily pavement, snow and ice. Cross railroad tracks at right angles. It is not necessary to use a bike lane or paved shoulders if hazards such as debris and poor pavement conditions make it unsafe.

Safety Accessories
Water bottles, tire repair kits, mirrors, locks, and first aid kits help make each trip safer and the bicyclist more self sufficient.

Always Yield to Other, Slower Trail Users
When operating on a shared use trail or sidewalk, bicyclists must yield the right of way to pedestrians and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian. When overtaking, announce your intentions by saying "passing on your left" or ringing your bell.

Always Wear an Approved Helmet
Always have your helmet fitted and adjusted properly. Helmets should fit snugly so they do not move around while riding.

Wear Appropriate Clothing
Wear light, bright and/or reflective clothing at all times of the day and night to improve your visibility. Dress in layers and bring gear for unforeseen changes in weather.

Ride as far to the Right as Practicable
Bicyclists should keep as far to the right as practicable, moving left to avoid hazards and to position themselves in the appropriate designated through or turn lanes.

Keep to the Right and Ride Only Two abreast
No more than two bicyclists should ride side by side in a public roadway. When riding in a group, form a single file line when other road users are present.

Ride with Traffic
Motorists are not looking for bicyclists riding on the wrong side of the road. State law requires that cyclists ride that way.

On average, a mile takes 4 to 8 minutes to bike not accounting for delays from stop signs, traffic signals or traffic. Approximate distance traveled in 15 minutes: At a speed of 6 mph At a speed of 15 mph

