A bicycle is an excellent option for both transportation and recreation – fun, inexpensive, and healthy for the environment and the rider. Our region offers many special bikeways – paths, bike lanes, and marked bike routes. This guide will introduce you to facilities for recreational riding in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan. Use this guide to find new places to ride, to see how existing facilities are linked, and to learn the plans for the further development of our area’s bike facilities.

This guide includes three maps:

- **Existing Facilities** highlights completed trails and lanes for riders.
- **Existing Facilities-Toledo Area** shows more details in Toledo, Sylvania, Rossford, Maumee, and Perrysburg.
- **Proposed Bicycle Facilities** shows regional plans for expanding bike access through building new and linking existing paths. You can help to bring these plans to realization. See the list of cycling clubs and advocacy groups in this guide. Also check www.tmacog.org for activities of TMACOG’s Pedestrian & Bikeways Committee.

Much more information is available for interested riders. This recreational guide includes contact information for various park districts, political jurisdictions and agencies that create bike infrastructure. Websites will connect you to updated information and show links to many more resources.

The Bicycle User’s Pocket Guide is a companion piece to this facilities guide. The pocket guide is designed to help a bicycle commuter design a route to match the rider’s skill level. It shows more details of city streets and traffic and will be useful as a reference guide and planning tool.

While the laws of the state apply to all riders, individual cities and villages may have additional regulations. Please check with your jurisdiction to ensure that you are riding safely and legally.

When planning your bicycle trips, please remember that the resources of the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) are also available to assist you. All TARTA buses are equipped with bicycle racks and when you ride a TARTA bus, you can bring along your bike at no extra charge. Call 419.243.RIDE or go to www.TARTA.com for route and schedule information.

This Pocket Guide is a companionship piece to the facilities guide. The pocket guide is designed to help a bicycle commuter design a route to match the rider’s skill level. It shows more details of city streets and traffic and will be useful as a reference guide and planning tool.

**SAFETY TIPS AT A GLANCE**

1. **Obey Traffic Signs and Signals**
   - Bicycles must drive like other vehicles if they are to be taken seriously by motorists.

2. **Don’t Pass on the Right**
   - Motorists may not look for or see a bicycle passing on the right. Learn to scan the road behind you while riding. Look back over your shoulder without swerving to the left, or use a rearview mirror.

3. **Ride in Middle of Lane in Slow Traffic**
   - Get in the middle of the lane at busy intersections and whenever you are moving at the same speed as traffic.

4. **Scan the Road Behind**
   - Learn to look back over your shoulder without losing your balance or swerving. Some riders use rearview mirrors.

5. **Avoid Road Hazards**
   - Watch out for parallel sewer grates, gravel or debris. Cross railroad tracks at right angles.

6. **Keep Bike in Good Repair**
   - Adjust your bike to fit you and keep it working properly. Routine maintenance is simple and you can learn to do it yourself.

7. **Dress Appropriately**
   - In inclement weather dress in layers. And always wear a helmet, preferably white for greater visibility.

8. **Hand Signals**
   - Hand signals tell motorists and pedestrians what you intend to do. Signal as a matter of law, of courtesy, and of self-protection.

9. **Choose the Best Way to Turn Left**
   - There are two ways to make a left turn. (1) Like an auto: signal, move into the left-turn lane and turn left. (2) Like a pedestrian: ride straight to the far-side crosswalk. Walk your bike across.

10. **Keep Both Hands Ready to Brake**
    - You may not stop in time if you brake one-handed. Allow extra distance for stopping in the rain, since brakes are less efficient when wet.

11. **Never Ride Against Traffic**
    - Motorists aren’t looking for bicyclists riding on the wrong side of the road.

12. **Follow Lane Markings**
    - Don’t turn left from the right lane. Don’t go straight in a lane marked “right-turn only.”

13. **Make Eye Contact with Drivers**
    - Assume that other drivers do not see you until you are sure that they do. Eye contact is important with any driver who might pose a threat to your safety.

14. **Use Lights at Night**
    - The law requires a white headlight (visible from at least 500 feet ahead) and a red rear reflector or tail-light (visible up to 300 feet from behind).

15. **Never Ride with Headphones**
    - Never wear headphones while riding a bike. Always wear a helmet.

16. **Dont Weave Between Parked Cars**
    - Weaving between parked cars makes it difficult for motorists to be aware of you on the road. Always wear a helmet.

17. **Never Ride with Headphones**
    - Never wear headphones while riding a bike. Always wear a helmet.

Happy cycling! And don’t forget to wear a helmet!
WHAT IS A “BIKE FACILITY?”

This recreational guide lists a number of different types of bicycling facilities from paths and trails to lanes to signed bike routes. Descriptions of each follow.

Bike Path or Trail: Facilities separate from the roadway are typically designed for two-way travel and are usually 10- or 12-foot-wide, paved or unpaved. All paths in our region are multi-purpose trails for non-motorized uses (biking, running, walking, roller blading, etc.). The more rural trails usually permit horseback riding.

Bike Lanes: One-way specially marked lanes, usually 5-foot-wide, adjoining each side of the road.

Signed Bike Route: A numbered or named route that cyclists can follow. It often connects to major destinations. A route may include streets, bike lanes, and paths.

Please note bicycles are permitted on any public roadway that is not a limited access divided highway.
Consult the Existing Facilities maps for the number keys to locate the following facilities:

1. SYLVANIA BIKE NETWORK
   The City of Sylvania and the Sylvania Area Joint Recreation District have developed the following bikeways to link neighborhoods with parks and other community facilities. (Also see section 2.)
   - Pacesetter Park Bike Path: 0.75-mile, 12-foot-wide paved bike path from Centennial Quarry to Pacesetter Park. Parking is available at both locations.
   - Monroe Street/Erie Street Bicycle Lanes: 2.1-mile, paved bike lanes, from Monroe Street at Silica Drive to Erie Street at Centennial Road.
     Contact: Sylvania Area Joint Recreation District, 419.882.1500 E-mail: sajrd.admin@sylvania.sev.org.

2. OLANDER PARK SYSTEM
   The Olander Park System in Sylvania operates Olander Park that features a 1.1-mile paved bicycle and walking path around the park as well as numerous other facilities on the park grounds. 6930 Sylvania Avenue, Sylvania, OH. Contact: Website: www.oolanderpark.com E-mail: olanderpk@sev.org 419.882.8313.

3. UNIVERSITY/PARKS TRAIL and CONNECTORS

3-1. University/Parks Trail: 6.3 miles. The first rails-to-trails conversion in Lucas County, a 12-foot-wide paved path from the University of Toledo to King Road in Sylvania. Parking is at the UT lot at Secor & Dorr streets, the Ottawa Hills Municipal Building (2125 Richards Road at Bancroft), Wildwood Preserve Metropark (follow connecting path to the Trail), and at the McCord Road crossing in Sylvania. Access is also available by street from Westfield Shoppingtown at Franklin Park, Tam-O-Shanter, and Ottawa Park (see 3-3 below).
   Contact: Metroparks of the Toledo Area, 419.407.9700

3-2. King Road/Sylvania Avenue Bikeway loop
   - King Road bike lanes: 0.5 miles, from University/Parks Trail to Sylvania Avenue.
   - Sylvania Avenue Bikeway: 4 miles. Bike lanes from King Road to Holland-Sylvania Road; 8-foot-wide asphalt path from Holland-Sylvania Road to Talmadge Road.
     Contact: Lucas County Engineer, 419.213.4540.
   - Talmadge Road/Springbrook Dr: 1.2-mile signed route: from Sylvania Avenue, follow Talmadge Road south to Springbrook Drive, then west to Corey Road. This is the route to Wildwood Metropark.
   - Wildwood Metropark Ottawa River Trail: 1.8-mile paved path and boardwalk from Corey Road (at Springbrook Drive), through Wildwood Metropark and across Ottawa River flood plain to the University/Parks Trail. This trail crosses the Ottawa River with a covered bridge and connects with all other Wildwood park trails.

3. UNIVERSITY/PARKS TRAIL and CONNECTORS

BICYCLE CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS AND ADVOCACY GROUPS

Hostelling International – Toledo Area
   Website: www.HIToledo.org
   E-mail: ToledoAreaCouncil@ekit.com

Toledo Area Bicyclists
   Website: ToledoAreaBicyclists.org

Maumee Valley Alternative Transportation Alliance
   E-mail: rzipperer@ymcatoledo.org
   Contact: Robert Zipperer 419.251.9622

Maumee Valley Wheelmen and Team Saturn Shell as well as other event information can be accessed at
   Website: www.freewheel.com

Northwestern Ohio Rails-to-Trails Association (NORTA)
   Website: www.Wabashcannonballtrail.org

Ohio Bicycle Federation
   Website: www.ohiobike.org

League of American Bicyclists
   Website: www.bikeleague.org

Assistance in developing route directions
   Website: www.viamichelin.com

BASIC BICYCLE SAFETY TIPS

- Bicyclists are not allowed on Interstate and limited access highways in Ohio.
- Use lights when riding in the rain and at night.
- Always wear a helmet.
- Be courteous, ride single file when appropriate.
- When riding in a narrow lane, stay far enough from the right edge to discourage vehicles from passing dangerously close in the same lane.
- When riding past parked cars, be alert for motorists opening doors or pulling out from parking spaces. Stay outside the “door zone.”
- Allow extra braking distance in weather. Bicycle brakes function poorly when wet.
- Cross railroad tracks at a right angle and be especially cautious when tracks are wet or frosted as tracks are then very slippery.
- Cross bridges with steel gratings very carefully, especially when gratings are wet.
- Fasten all spare clothing, parcels, or equipment securely to rack or bicycle to prevent anything from falling into a wheel.
- Lock your bike when it is left unattended.
- Keep tires inflated to proper pressure and bicycle in good repair.
- Ride defensively at all times. Never assume motorists know your intentions – make them clear through signals and your position in the lane.
- Wear highly visible clothing during the day and reflective clothing at night.
- Yield to pedestrians and emergency vehicles.
- Be predictable – do not surprise a motorist or a pedestrian.
- Beware of sand or gravel on the road when making turns – a bicycle can easily slide out from under you on sand or gravel.
- Many motorists are unaware that bicyclists are legitimate users of the streets and highways, so ride courteously, exercise common sense, and obey all traffic signs, signals and rules of the road.
- Occasionally a bicyclist will have no choice but to ride on a road or street judged unsuitable for bicyclists in order to access a suitable street/road. Use considerable caution when using such roads or streets, walking your bike if necessary.

Ride Predictably, Legally and Visibly
It’s Better to be Safe Than Sorry
MORE OHIO BICYCLE FACILITY INFORMATION

To find out more about area and statewide bikeways, contact the Ohio Department of Transportation’s office of bicycle planning at 614.752.4685, or check out the bikeway map and information on their website at www.dot.state.oh.us/bike.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Many exciting future bike projects are planned for our region. From new trails and bridges, to more bike lanes and signed bike routes, to completing many of the facilities and networks described in this brochure, our northwest Ohio/southeast Michigan region will help to ensure that bikes belong as an integral component of our transportation options.

For more information on new and upcoming projects, see the Proposed Facilities Map. To find out how you can be involved in planning the region’s future, contact TMACOG and the TMACOG Pedestrian & Bikeways Committee at 419.241.9155, or e-mail public.info@tmacog.org. Please visit TMACOG’s website at www.tmacog.org.

Resources for Bicyclists:

BIKEWAYS:
- Rails to Trails Conservancy www.railtrails.org
- Firelands Rails to Trails www.firelandsrailextotrails.org
- The Olander Park System www.landerpark.com
- The Sylvania Joint Recreational District www.sylvania recreation.org
- City of Bowling Green Parks and Recreation www.bghio.com/parks-and-recreation
- Springfield Township www.springfieldtownship.net
- City of Oregon www.ci.oh.us
- City of Toledo www.ci.toledo.oh.us
- Lucas County Engineer’s Office www.co.lucas.oh.us/engineer
- Monroe County Planning Dept. and Commission www.co.monroe.mi.us

BIKE SHOPS IN NORTHWEST OHIO

The Bike Route
5201 Monroe Street
Toledo, OH 43623
419.885.3030

Bike Works
5631 Alexis Road
Sylvania, OH 43560
419.882.0680

Cycle Werks
248 South Main Street
Bowling Green, OH 43402
419.352.9375

Cycle Werks
116 East William Street
Maumee, OH 43537
419.893.9375

Reggie’s Cycling & Fitness
5934 Secor Road
Toledo, OH 43623
419.751.1585

Wersell’s Bike and Ski Shop
2860 West Central Avenue
Toledo, OH 43606
419.474.7412

Fremont Schwinn Cyclery
107 North Ohio Avenue
Fremont, OH 43420
419.332.4481

Road Racer
625 Eckel Road #4
Perrysburg, OH 43551
419.874.7550

Mountain Man Ski Shop
2735 North Reynolds Road
Toledo, OH 43615
419.536.0001

Memory Lane Classics
24516 Third Street
Grand Rapids, OH 43522
419.832.3040

3-3. Connector to Ottawa Park: at the east end of the University/Parks Trail (on the UT campus), there are bike route signs on Oakwood Avenue and Westwood Avenue directing cyclists to the Ottawa Park bike path (see section 4).

4. OTTAWA & BEATTY/JERMAIN PARKS PATH AND CONNECTORS

Paved paths, 8-foot-wide. Connects three City of Toledo parks and the Scott Park Campus of UT.

- Beatty/Jermain Parks Path: 1 mile. Begins at Ayers Avenue, parallels South Cove Boulevard; crosses Monroe Street to Upton Avenue, where it enters Ottawa Park.
- Ottawa Park Path: 3-mile loop around the circumference of the park, adjacent to Bancroft, Douglas, Kenwood, North Cove, Upton. Connects to the Jermain path at South Cove and the Parkside Boulevard path at Bancroft.
- Parkside Boulevard Bike Path: 1.8 miles. Located in the center median of Parkside Boulevard, provides connection from Ottawa Park to the University of Toledo’s Scott Park Campus. There are numerous roadway crossings that require care when crossing. Please pay careful attention when crossing the roads. Ends at Hill Avenue.

Other City of Toledo Bicycle Facilities
- Highland Park Bike Path: 0.9 mile. Located in Highland Park off South Avenue in south Toledo. Highland Park also contains a skateboard facility.
- Walbridge Park Bike Path: 1.0 mile. Located in Walbridge Park across Broadway Avenue from the Toledo Zoo in south Toledo.
- International Park Rotary Trail: 2.5 miles. Located in International Park on the east bank of the Maumee River off Main Street. Park also contains the Willis Boyer Museum Ship Freighter. Path will connect to the Marina District Bikeway and Craig Bridge Trail as they are developed.
- Bowman Park Bike Path: 1.0 mile. Located in Bowman Park between Laskey and Tremainsville roads in west Toledo.
- Woodsdale Park Bike Path: 0.7 mile. Located in Woodsdale Park at the intersection of Woodsdale Avenue and the Anthony Wayne Trail in south Toledo. Contact: City of Toledo Division of Parks and Recreation, 419.936.2900.

5. GREENBELT PARKWAY BIKE PATH

1.5 mile. Parallels the Buckeye Basin Greenbelt Parkway (SR 25) from Cherry Street to I-280. 12-foot-wide paved path. Will be connected to the pathway adjacent to I-280 and crossing the Craig Bridge to East Toledo.
6. OREGON BIKE NETWORK

The City of Oregon is developing a network to create a route from the Maumee River to Maumee Bay State Park, with connections to many other locations including schools, Pearson Metropark, and Oregon’s Municipal Complex. Currently constructed or funded parts:

- **Starr Avenue Bike Lanes:** 1.9 miles. Paved bike lanes, from Wheeling Street to Pearson Park at the intersection of Lallendorf Road. (There are also paths in Pearson Park — see 14.)

- **Pearson Park Connector:** 1.0-mile, 10-foot-wide paved path connecting from Starr Avenue Bikeway to the Municipal Complex Connector, running on the north side of Starr Avenue from Lallendorf Road to Wynn Road.

- **Municipal Complex Connector Phase 1:** 0.8-mile, 10-foot-wide paved path from Wynn Road to City of Oregon Municipal & Recreational Complex along Starr Avenue and Wolf Creek. Parking to be available at Oregon Municipal Complex off Seaman Road.

- **Stadium Road Bikeway Phase 1:** 0.6-mile, paved path. Starts at corner of Stadium & Bayshore roads (at South Shore Veterans Park), and runs to Eagle’s Landing Golf Course and Subdivision.

- **Bayshore Road Bike Path:** 1.2-mile, paved bike path along Bayshore Road. Begins at Stadium Road at South Shore Veterans Park and the James A. Haley Boardwalk. The path continues east to Maumee Bay State Park, connecting to park roads and trails. (See 14.) Parking available at South Shore Park. Contact: City of Oregon Dept. of Public Service, 419.698.7047.

7. WABASH CANNONBALL TRAIL

One of the region’s largest trail systems, using two former Wabash Railroad rights-of-way plus a connector between them. Both forks have their eastern trailheads on Jerome Road in Maumee, at the site of the future Fallen Timbers Battlefield Park. A bicycle/pedestrian overpass has been constructed to provide access from the Trail to the memorial on the south side of US24. Paving is completed in Lucas County and in the City of Wauseon (Fulton County). The rest is crushed stone with mountain bikes recommended.

7-1. North Fork: A 46-mile corridor from Jerome Road to Montpelier. Partly open. It passes through Lucas, Fulton, and Williams counties and several towns and villages including Delta and Wauseon. About 21 miles are open, including 10 miles paved in Lucas County (Jerome Road through Oak Openings Metropark); 6.5 miles stone from Oak Openings to SR 109 in Fulton County; 1 mile paved plus 2 miles unpaved in Wauseon; and 2 miles unpaved in the West Unity area in Williams County.

7-2. South Fork: 17 miles. All open, from Jerome Road to Liberty Center; passes through Lucas and Henry counties, and villages of Whitehouse, Neapolis, and Colton. There is a covered bridge on the trail just east of Neapolis. Asphalt pavement within Lucas County, the remainder is mostly stone.

7-3. North-South Connector: 2 miles. Paved in Oak Openings Metropark, from North Fork to SR 64. In future will extend via a path and a signed route to South Fork; at present, follow local roads. Contact: Metroparks of the Toledo Area, 419.407.9700. City of Wauseon, 419.335.9022. Northwestern Ohio Rails-to-Trails Assc., Inc. (NORTA Inc.), 600.951.4788, E-mail: pmgnorta@buckeye-express.com (volunteer organization that oversees most of trail in Fulton, Williams, and Henry counties).

14. BIKE PATHS IN AREA PARKS

- **Maumee Bay State Park** offers bike trails, bike lanes and park roads suitable for cycling. Contact the Park Administration at 419.836.7758.

- **Metroparks of the Toledo Area.** In addition to the facilities described in sections 3 and 6 of this brochure, the following metroparks have bike trails within their grounds:
  - **Oak Openings (5 miles)**, **Pearson (3 miles)**, **Wildwood (2 miles)**, **Slocor (3 miles)**, **Swan Creek (3 miles)**, and the 8-mile Towpath Trail from Farnsworth to Providence Metroparks (14-1 on map). Some are paved, some, not. For more information, contact the Metroparks at 419.407.9700. Website: www.metroparks.toledo.com.

- **Wood County Park District.** In addition to the Slippery Elm Trail, the following Wood County Parks have facilities of interest to cyclists:
  - **W.W. Knight Nature Preserve**—restrooms, bike trail; **William Henry Harrison Park**—restrooms; **Otsego Park**—restrooms. For more information, contact Wood County Park District, 419.353.1897; 800.321.1897; E-mail: email@wcparks.org. Website: www.wcparks.org.

- **Community Parks.** Toledo, Bowling Green and several other area cities, villages, and townships have parks with bicycle paths, usually 10-foot-wide paved. Contact your local government for information, or for assistance call TMACOG at 419.241.9155.

**Village of Waterville.** In 2008 the village is constructing a public restroom facility with drinking fountain at the intersection of the Anthony Wayne Trail, Farnsworth Road and Third Street adjacent to popular bike routes and downtown restaurants.
11. SLIPPERY ELM TRAIL
13 miles, 12-foot-wide, paved trail. Wood County’s premier trail, maintained by the Wood County Park District, this former B&O Railroad right-of-way links the Ohio communities of Bowling Green, Portage, Rudolph, and North Baltimore. Parking is available at BG City Park, at the Montessori School (during non-school hours) on Sand Ridge Road in Bowling Green, at the Portage Road crossing, at the rest area in the Village of Rudolph, and at the southern terminus in North Baltimore. Restrooms in North Baltimore.
Contact: Wood County Park District, 419.353.1897; 800.321.1897; E-mail: email@wcparks.org. Website: www.wcparks.org.

12. MONROE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
Just north of Toledo, the three southernmost townships of Monroe County are part of the Toledo metropolitan transportation planning area. Bike lanes have been constructed on:
Douglas Road from Sterns Road to Summerfield Road, 0.5 miles;
Lewis Avenue from Erie Road to Dean Road in Temperance, 2 miles.
For more information about these and other Michigan bicycle facilities, contact Monroe County Road Commission at 734.240.5102, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) at 313.961.4266; or Michigan Department of Transportation’s website at www.michigan.gov/mdot.

13. REGIONAL BIKE NETWORK
As part of the regional 25-year transportation plan (the 2035 Plan), roads that provide good travel routes for cyclists in the Toledo metropolitan area have been identified and placed on the TMACOG 2035 Bicycle Network Plan. (The plan includes all of Lucas and Wood counties and southern Monroe County in Michigan.) Most of the facilities described in this brochure are part of that network. As the network roads are repaired or modified, bike and pedestrian friendly improvements can be considered for inclusion in those projects.
To help cyclists reach their destinations, a project is underway to sign and map the major regional routes. Bike Routes 5, 14 and 20 are all shown on the map in this guide. Signs are white rectangles with a green oval. The green oval has a bike symbol and the route number on it.

13-1. Bike Route 20: 38-mile, signed east-west route, beginning on Bancroft Street at the Lucas-Fulton County line and leading to Maumee Bay State Park and Lake Erie (Reno Beach area) in eastern Lucas County. Route follows Bancroft, Cherry, Martin Luther King Jr. Bridge, Main, Front, Morrison, Ravine Parkway/Seaman, Whittlesley, Starr Avenue Bikeway, Stadium, Corduroy. Bike Route 20A continues north on Stadium to the Bayshore Road Bikeway. For more information on the Regional Bike Network, contact TMACOG at 419.241.9155.

8. PERRYSBURG AREA BIKEWAYS
The following will help create the North Coast/Wabash Connector (connection between these two major trails). (See 9 and 9-3.)
•Maumee-Perrysburg Bridge Bikeway: The new bridge spanning the Maumee River between Maumee and Perrysburg provides sidewalks plus a 10-foot-wide bike path.
•City of Perrysburg Bikeways: 0.6-mile, 10-foot-wide paved bike path from the Maumee-Perrysburg Bridge to W. Boundary Street (SR 25), ending at the Indiana Avenue (SR 65) intersection.
Contact: City of Perrysburg, 419.872.8010.

9. NORTH COAST INLAND TRAIL and CONNECTORS
The North Coast Inland Trail (NCIT) is a rails-to-trails conversion. When complete, it will run about 75 miles from Elyria going west to Millbury. At present, a few sections are open to the public. Efforts are underway to link this trail with the Wabash Cannonball system. Below are the current open northwest Ohio sections of this trail.

9-1. North Coast Inland Trail
The Fremont to Clyde segment extends 8.5 miles including a new 2-mile segment in the heart of Fremont. The Fremont section includes stunning views from the 400-foot-long rehabilitated trestle over the Sandusky river in downtown Fremont. The bridge is the northernmost dedicated bicycle/pedestrian crossing of the Sandusky River and Sandusky Bay. The addition of the Fremont segment provides direct access to the Fremont Community Recreation Center at Biggs-Kettner Eastside Park, at Walsh Memorial Park, at Roger Young Park, and in downtown Fremont. The entire Fremont to Clyde segment provides a 10-foot-wide paved surface.

The Sandusky County Park District is constructing a 10.5-mile segment extending from the City of Fremont in Sandusky County to the Village of Elmore in Ottawa County. This trail segment will pass through the Village of Lindsey. Opening of this segment, funded through an ODOT Transportation Enhancement Grant and an ODNR Clean Ohio Trail Grant, is anticipated in fall 2008.
Contact: Sandusky County Park District, 419.334.4495. Website: www.scpd-parks.org.

In Huron County, significant progress has been made on segments of the North Coast Inland Trail. The corridor is owned by a coalition of park districts and construction and operation are provided by the nonprofit trail advocacy group, Firelands Rails to Trails. Contact: www.FirelandsRailsToTrails.org.
(Not shown on the map:)
•Eastern end of the NCIT, Elyria to Kipton in Lorain County, 14-mile, 10-foot-wide paved trail.
Contact: Lorain Co. Metroparks, 440.458.5121.
•Huron River Greenway. When completed, will run approximately 12 miles from Huron to Norwalk connecting with the NCIT. The northern portion is currently closed pending resolution of access issues.
Contact: Erie Metroparks, 419.621.4220; Website: www.erie.metroparks.org.

9-2. Village of Elmore: Approximately 2.5-mile section, which runs the width of the town. Crushed stone surface.
Contact: Village of Elmore, 419.662.3362.

9-3. North Coast/Wabash Connector: Phase One, approximately 6.5 miles total, begins in Millbury. Signed bike route from Main Street (Millbury Road) north to Ayers Road, west to Drouillard Road, north to Village of Walbridge parks. Bike lanes on Drouillard from Ayers south to Friendship Park, which has restrooms and a 0.25-mile paved path loop.
Contact: Lake Township, 419.838.6536.
City of Perrysburg is working on a second phase of the Connector. (See 8 above.)

10. BOWLING GREEN SIGNED ROUTES
The City of Bowling Green has signs on a number of streets to identify bicycle routes through the city. They provide for more than 20 miles of east-west and north-south travel, including connection to the Slippery Elm Trail.
Contact: City of Bowling Green Parks & Recreation Department, 419.354.6223; bgparks@bgohio.org.
11. SLIPPERY ELM TRAIL
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9-1. North Coast Inland Trail
The Fremont to Clyde segment extends 8.5 miles including a new 2-mile segment in the heart of Fremont. The Fremont section includes stunning views from the 400-foot-long rehabilitated trestle over the Sandusky river in downtown Fremont. The bridge is the northernmost dedicated bicycle/pedestrian crossing of the Sandusky River and Sandusky Bay. The addition of the Fremont segment provides direct access to the Fremont Community Recreation Center at Biggs-Ketter Eastside Park, at Walsh Memorial Park, at Roger Young Park, and in downtown Fremont. The entire Fremont to Clyde segment provides a 10-foot-wide paved surface.
The Sandusky County Park District is constructing a 10.5-mile segment extending from the City of Fremont in Sandusky County to the Village of Elmore in Ottawa County. This trail segment will pass through the Village of Lindsey. Opening of this segment, funded through an ODOT Transportation Enhancement Grant and an ODNR Clean Ohio Trail Grant, is anticipated in fall 2008.
Contact: Sandusky County Park District, 419.334.4495. Website: www.scpd-parks.org.

In Huron County, significant progress has been made on segments of the North Coast Inland Trail. The corridor is owned by a coalition of park districts and construction and operation are provided by the non-profit trail advocacy group, Firelands Rails to Trails. Contact: www.FirelandsRailsToTrails.org.

9-2. Village of Elmore: Approximately 2.5-mile section, which runs the width of the town. Crushed stone surface.
Contact: Village of Elmore, 419.862.3362.

9-3. North Coast/Wabash Connector: Phase One, approximately 6.5 miles total, begins in Milbury. Signed bike route from Main Street (Milbury Road) north to Ayers Road, west to Drouillard Road, north to Village of Walbridge parks. Bike lanes on Drouillard from Ayers south to Friendship Park, which has restrooms and a 0.25-mile paved path loop.
Contact: Lake Township, 419.838.6536.
City of Perrysburg is working on a second phase of the Connector. (See 8 above.)

10. BOWLING GREEN SIGNED ROUTES
The City of Bowling Green has signs on a number of streets to identify bicycle routes through the city. They provide for more than 20 miles of east-west and north-south travel, including connection to the Slippery Elm Trail.
Contact: City of Bowling Green Parks & Recreation Department, 419.354.6223; bgparks@bgohio.org.
6. OREGON BIKE NETWORK

The City of Oregon is developing a network to create a route from the Maumee River to Maumee Bay State Park, with connections to many other Oregon locations including schools, Pearson Metropark, and Oregon’s Municipal Complex. Currently constructed or funded parts:

- **Starr Avenue Bike Lanes**: 1.9 miles. Paved bike lanes, from Wheeling Street to Pearson Park at the intersection of Lallendorf Road. (There are also paths in Pearson Park — see 14.)

- **Pearson Park Connector**: 1.0-mile, 10-foot-wide paved path connecting from Starr Avenue Bikeway to the Municipal Complex Connector, running on the north side of Starr Avenue from Lallendorf Road to Wynn Road.

- **Municipal Complex Connector Phase 1**: 0.8-mile, 10-foot-wide paved path from Wynn Road to City of Oregon Municipal & Recreational Complex along Starr Avenue and Wolf Creek. Parking to be available at Oregon Municipal Complex off Seaman Road.

- **Stadium Road Bikeway Phase 1**: 0.6-mile, paved path. Starts at corner of Stadium & Bayshore roads (at South Shore Veterans Park), and runs to Eagle’s Landing Golf Course and Subdivision.

- **Bayshore Road Bike Path**: 1.2-mile, paved bike path along Bayshore Road. Begins at Stadium Road at South Shore Veterans Park and the James A. Haley Boardwalk. The path continues east to Maumee Bay State Park, connecting to park roads and trails. (See 14.) Parking available at South Shore Park. Contact: City of Oregon Dept. of Public Service, 419.698.7047.

7. WABASH CANNONBALL TRAIL

One of the region’s largest trail systems, using two former Wabash Railroad rights-of-way plus a connector between them. Both forks have their eastern trailheads on Jerome Road in Maumee, at the site of the future Fallen Timbers Battlefield Park. A bicycle/pedestrian overpass has been constructed to provide access from the Trail to the memorial on the south side of US24. Paving is completed in Lucas County and in the City of Wauseon (Fulton County). The rest is crushed stone with mountain bikes recommended.

7-1. North Fork: A 46-mile corridor from Jerome Road to Montpelier. Partly open. It passes through Lucas, Fulton, and Williams counties and several towns and villages including Delta and Wauseon. About 21 miles are open, including 10 miles paved in Lucas County (Jerome Road through Oak Openings Metropark); 6.5 miles stone from Oak Openings to SR 109 in Fulton County; 1 mile paved plus 2 miles unpaved in Wauseon; and 2 miles unpaved in the West Unity area in Williams County.

7-2. South Fork: 17 miles. All open, from Jerome Road to Liberty Center; passes through Lucas and Henry counties, and villages of Whitehouse, Neoplis, and Colton. There is a covered bridge on the trail just east of Neoplis. Asphalt pavement within Lucas County, the remainder is mostly stone.

7-3. North-South Connector: 2 miles. Paved in Oak Openings Metropark, from North Fork to SR 64. In future will extend west via a path and a signed route to South Fork; at present, follow local roads. Contact: Metroparks of the Toledo Area, 419.407.9700. City of Wauseon, 419.335.9022. Northwestern Ohio Rails-to-Trails Assoc., Inc. (NORTA), Inc., 600.951.4788, E-mail: pmgnorta@buckeye-express.com (volunteer organization that oversees most of trail in Fulton, Williams, and Henry counties).

14. BIKE PATHS IN AREA PARKS

- **Maumee Bay State Park** offers bike trails, bike lanes and park roads suitable for cycling. Contact the Park Administration at 419.836.7758.

- **Metroparks of the Toledo Area**, in addition to the facilities described in sections 3 and 6 of this brochure, the following metroparks have bike trails within their grounds:
  - **Oak Openings** (5 miles), **Pearson** (3 miles), **Wildwood** (2 miles), **Secor** (3 miles), **Swan Creek** (3 miles), and the 8-mile Towpath Trail from Farnsworth to Providence Metroparks (14-1 on map). Some are paved, some, not. For more information, contact the Metroparks at 419.407.9700. Website: www.metroparks Toledo.com.

- **Wood County Park District.** In addition to the Slippery Elm Trail, the following Wood County Parks have facilities of interest to cyclists:
  - **W.W. Knight Nature Preserve**—restrooms, bike trail; **William Henry Harrison Park**—restrooms; **Otsego Park**—restrooms. For more information, contact Wood County Park District, 419.353.1897; 800.321.1897; E-mail: email@wcparks.org. Website: www.wcparks.org.

- **Community Parks.** Toledo, Bowling Green and several other area cities, villages, and townships have parks with bicycle paths, usually 10-foot-wide paved. Contact your local government for information, or for assistance call TMACOG at 419.241.9155.

**Village of Waterville.** In 2008 the village is constructing a public restroom facility with drinking fountain at the intersection of the Anthony Wayne Trail, Farnsworth Road and Third Street adjacent to popular biking routes and downtown restaurants.

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![Wabash Cannonball Trail](image)
MORE OHIO BICYCLE FACILITY INFORMATION

To find out more about area and statewide bikeways, contact the Ohio Department of Transportation’s office of bicycle planning at 614.752.4685, or check out the bikeway map and information on their website at www.dot.state.oh.us/bike.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Many exciting future bike projects are planned for our region. From new trails and bridges, to more bike lanes and signed bike routes, to completing many of the facilities and networks described in this brochure, our northwest Ohio/southeast Michigan region will help to ensure that bikes belong as an integral component of our transportation options.

For more information on new and upcoming projects, see the Proposed Facilities Map. To find out how you can be involved in planning the region’s future, contact TMACOG and the TMACOG Pedestrian & Bikeways Committee at 419.241.9155, or e-mail public.info@tmacog.org. Please visit TMACOG’s website at www.tmacog.org.

Resources for Bicyclists:

BIKEWAYS:
- Rails to Trails Conservancy www.railtrails.org
- FiRelands Rails to Trails www.fiRelandsrails2trails.org
- The Olander Park System www.olanderpk.com
- The Sylvania Joint Recreational District www.sylvaniacreation.org
- City of Bowling Green Parks and Recreation www.bghio.org/parks-and-recreation
- Springfield Township www.springfieldtwp.net
- City of Oregon www.ci.oregon.oh.us
- City of Toledo www.ci.toledo.oh.us
- Lucas County Engineer’s Office www.co.lucas.oh.us/engineer
- Monroe County Planning Dept. and Commission www.co.monroe.mi.us

BIKE SHOPS IN NORTHWEST OHIO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bike Works</th>
<th>Cycle Works</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5631 Alexis Road</td>
<td>248 South Main Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sylvania, OH 43560</td>
<td>Bowling Green, OH 43402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>419.882.0800</td>
<td>419.352.9375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cycle Werks</td>
<td>Wersell’s Bike and Ski Shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5934 Secor Road</td>
<td>2860 West Central Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toledo, OH 43623</td>
<td>Toledo, OH 43606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>419.475.1585</td>
<td>419.474.7412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Racer</td>
<td>Mountain Man Ski Shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>625 Eckel Road #4</td>
<td>2735 North Reynolds Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perrysburg, OH 43551</td>
<td>Toledo, OH 43615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>419.874.7550</td>
<td>419.536.0001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3-3. Connector to Ottawa Park: at the east end of the University/Parks Trail (on the UT campus), there are bike route signs on Oakwood Avenue and Westwood Avenue directing cyclists to the Ottawa Park bike path (see section 4).

4. OTTAWA & BEATTY/ JERMAIN PARKS PATH AND CONNECTORS

Paved paths, 8-foot-wide. Connects three City of Toledo parks and the Scott Park Campus of UT.

- Beatty/Jermain Parks Path: 1 mile. Begins at Ayers Avenue, parallels South Cove Boulevard; crosses Monroe Street to Upton Avenue, where it enters Ottawa Park.
- Ottawa Park Path: 3-mile loop around the circumference of the park, adjacent to Bancroft, Douglass, Kenwood, North Cove, Upton. Connects to the Jermain path at South Cove and the Parkside Boulevard path at Bancroft.
- Parkside Boulevard Bike Path: 1.8 miles. Located in the center median of Parkside Boulevard, provides connection from Ottawa Park to the University of Toledo's Scott Park Campus. There are numerous roadway crossings that require care when crossing. Please pay careful attention when crossing the roads. Ends at Hill Avenue.

Other City of Toledo Bicycle Facilities

- Highland Park Bike Path: 0.9 mile. Located in Highland Park off South Avenue in south Toledo. Highland Park also contains a skateboard facility.
- Walbridge Park Bike Path: 1.0 mile. Located in Walbridge Park across Broadway Avenue from the Toledo Zoo in south Toledo.
- International Park Rotary Trail: 2.5 miles. Located in International Park on the east bank of the Maumee River off Main Street. Park also contains the Willis Boyer Museum Ship Freighter. Path will connect to the Marina District Bikeway and Craig Bridge Trail as they are developed.
- Bowman Park Bike Path: 1.0 mile. Located in Bowman Park between Laskey and Tremainsville roads in west Toledo.
- Woodsdale Park Bike Path: 0.7 mile. Located in Woodsdale Park at the intersection of Woodsdale Avenue and the Anthony Wayne Trail in south Toledo. Contact: City of Toledo Division of Parks and Recreation, 419.936.2900.

5. GREENBELT PARKWAY BIKE PATH

1.5 mile. Parallels the Buckeye Basin Greenbelt Parkway (SR 25) from Cherry Street to I-280. 12-foot-wide paved path. Will be connected to the pathway adjacent to I-280 and crossing the Craig Bridge to East Toledo.
Consult the Existing Facilities maps for the number keys to locate the following facilities:

1. SYLVANIA BIKE NETWORK
The City of Sylvania and the Sylvania Area Joint Recreation District have developed the following bikeways to link neighborhoods with parks and other community facilities. (Also see section 2.)

- Pacesetter Park Bike Path: 0.75-mile, 12-foot-wide paved bike path from Centennial Quarry to Pacesetter Park. Parking is available at both locations.

- Monroe Street/Erie Street Bicycle Lanes: 2.1-mile, paved bike lanes, from Monroe Street at Silica Drive to Erie Street at Centennial Road.
  Contact: Sylvania Area Joint Recreation District, 419.882.1500. E-mail: sajrd.adm@sylvania.sev.org.

2. OLANDER PARK SYSTEM
The Olander Park System in Sylvania operates Olander Park featuring a 1.1-mile paved bicycle and walking path and numerous other facilities on the park grounds. 6930 Sylvania Avenue. Also the Quarry Ridge Bike Trail encompasses Pacesetter, Fossil and Sylvan Prairie parks.
  Contact: Website: www.olanderpk.com. E-mail: olanderpk@sev.org. 419.882.8313.

3. UNIVERSITY/PARKS TRAIL and CONNECTORS
3-1. University/Parks Trail 6.3 miles. The first rails-to-trails conversion in Lucas County, a 12-foot-wide paved path from the University of Toledo to King Road in Sylvania. Parking is at the UT lot at Secor & Dorr streets, the Ottawa Hills Municipal Building (2125 Richards Road at Bancroft), Wildwood Preserve Metropark (follow connecting path to the Trail), and at the Mc Cord Road crossing in Sylvania. Access is also available by street from Westfield Shoppingtown at Franklin Park, Tam-O-Shanter, and Ottawa Park (see 3-3 below).
  Contact: Metroparks of the Toledo Area. 419.407.9700

3-2. King Road/Sylvania Avenue Bikeway loop
- King Road bike lanes: 0.5 miles, from University/Parks Trail to Sylvania Avenue.
- Sylvania Avenue Bikeway: 4 miles. Bike lanes from King Road to Holland-Sylvania Road; 8-foot-wide asphalt path from Holland-Sylvania Road to Talmadge Road.
  Contact: Lucas County Engineer. 419.213.4540.
- Talmadge Road/Spingbrook Drive: 1.2-mile signed route: from Sylvania Avenue, follow Talmadge Road south to Springbrook Drive, then west to Corey Road. This is the route to Wildwood Metropark.
- Wildwood Metropark Ottawa River Trail: 1.8-mile paved path and boardwalk from Corey Road (at Springbrook Drive), through Wildwood Metropark and across Ottawa River floodplain to the University/ Parks Trail. This trail crosses the Ottawa River with a covered bridge and connects with all other Wildwood park trails.

BICYCLE CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS AND ADVOCACY GROUPS
Hostelling International – Toledo Area
Website: www.HIToledo.org
E-mail: ToledoAreaCouncil@ekit.com

Toledo Area Bicyclists
Website: ToledoAreaBicyclists.org

Maumee Valley Alternative Transportation Alliance
E-mail: rzipperer@ymcatoledo.org
Contact: Robert Ziperer 419.251.9622

Maumee Valley Wheelmen and Team Saturn Shell as well as other event information can be accessed at Website: www.freewheel.com

Northwestern Ohio Rails-to-Trails Association (NORTA)
Website: www.Wabashcannonballtrail.org

Ohio Bicycle Federation
Website: www.ohiobike.org

League of American Bicyclists
Website: www.bikeleague.org

Assistance in developing route directions
Website: www.viamichelin.com

Ride Predictably, Legally, and Visibly.
It’s Better to be Safe Than Sorry.

BASIC CYCLE SAFETY TIPS
- Bicyclists are not allowed on Interstate and limited access highways in Ohio.
- Use lights when riding in the rain and at night.
- Always wear a helmet.
- Be courteous, ride single file when appropriate.
- When riding in a narrow lane, stay far enough from the right edge to discourage vehicles from passing dangerously close in the same lane.
- When riding past parked cars, be alert for motorists opening doors or pulling out from parking spaces. Stay outside the “door zone.”
- Allow extra braking distance in weather. Bicycle brakes function poorly when wet.
- Cross railroad tracks at a right angle and be especially cautious when tracks are wet or frosted as tracks are then very slippery.
- Cross bridges with steel gratings very carefully, especially when gratings are wet.
- Fasten all spare clothing, parcels, or equipment securely to rack or bicycle to prevent anything from falling into a wheel.
- Lock your bike when it is left unattended.
- Keep tires inflated to proper pressure and bicycle in good repair.
- Ride defensively at all times. Never assume motorists know your intentions – make them clear through signals and your position in the lane.
- Wear highly visible clothing during the day and reflective clothing at night.
- Yield to pedestrians and emergency vehicles.
- Be predictable – do not surprise a motorist or pedestrian.
- Beware of sand or gravel on the road. Making turns – a bicycle can easily slide out from under you on sand or gravel.
- Many motorists are unaware that bicyclists are legitimate users of the streets and highways, so ride courteously, exercise common sense, and obey all traffic signs, signals and rules of the road.
- Occasionally a bicyclist will have no choice but to ride on a road or street judged unsafe for bicyclists in order to access a suitable street/road. Use considerable caution when using such roads or streets, watching your bike if necessary.
WHAT IS A “BIKE FACILITY?”

This recreational guide lists a number of different types of bicycling facilities from paths and trails to lanes to signed bike routes. Descriptions of each follow.

Bike Path or Trail: Facilities separate from the roadway are typically designed for two-way travel and are usually 10- or 12-foot-wide, paved or unpaved. All paths in our region are multi-purpose trails for non-motorized uses (biking, running, walking, roller blading, etc.). The more rural trails usually permit horseback riding.

Bike Lanes: One-way specially marked lanes, usually 5-foot-wide, adjoining each side of the road.

Signed Bike Route: A numbered or named route that cyclists can follow. It often connects to major destinations. A route may include streets, bike lanes, and paths.

Please note bicycles are permitted on any public roadway that is not a limited access divided highway.

GENERAL INFORMATION:
- Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments  www.tmacog.org
- Ohio Department of Transportation  www.dot.state.oh.us
- Metroparks of the Toledo Area  www.metroparkstoledo.com
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources  www.dnr.state.oh.us
A bicycle is an excellent option for both transportation and recreation – fun, inexpensive, and healthy for the environment and the rider. Our region offers some special bikeways – paths, bike lanes, and marked bike routes. This guide will introduce you to facilities for recreational riding in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan. Use this guide to find new places to ride, to see how existing facilities are linked, and to learn the plans for the further development of our area’s bike facilities.

This guide includes three maps:

- **Existing Facilities** highlights completed trails and lanes for riders.
- **Existing Facilities-Toledo Area** shows more details in Toledo, Sylvania, Rossford, Maumee, and Perrysburg.
- **Proposed Bicycle Facilities** shows regional plans for expanding bike access through building new and linking existing paths. You can help to bring these plans to realization. See the list of cycling clubs and advocacy groups in this guide. Also check www.tmacog.org for activities of TMACOG’s Pedestrian & Bikeways Committee.

SAFETY TIPS AT A GLANCE

- **Obey Traffic Signs and Signals**: Bicycles must drive like other vehicles if they are to be taken seriously by motorists.
- **Don’t Pass on the Right**: Motorists may not look for or see a bicycle passing on the right. Learn to scan the road behind you while riding. Look back over your shoulder without swerving to the left, or use a rearview mirror.
- **Ride in Middle of Lane in Slow Traffic**: Get in the middle of the lane at busy intersections and whenever you are moving at the same speed as traffic.
- **Scan the Road Behind**: Learn to look back over your shoulder without losing your balance or swerving. Some riders use rearview mirrors.
- **Avoid Road Hazards**: Watch out for parallel sewer grates, gravel or debris. Cross railroad tracks at right angles.
- **Keep Bike in Good Repair**: Adjust your bike to fit you and keep it working properly. Check brakes and tires regularly. Routine maintenance is simple and you can learn to do it yourself.
- **Keep in Good Repair**: Make eye contact with drivers. Assume that other drivers do not see you until you are sure that they do. Eye contact is important with any driver who might pose a threat to your safety.
- **Use Lights at Night**: The law requires a white headlight (visible from at least 500 feet ahead) and a red rear reflector or tail-light (visible up to 300 feet from behind).
- **Dress Appropriately**: Avoid loose fitting clothing. Wear light visible colors. In inclement weather dress in layers. And always wear a helmet, preferably white for greater visibility.
- **Never Ride Against Traffic**: Bicycles must drive like other vehicles if they are to be taken seriously by motorists.
- **Follow Lane Markings**: Don’t turn left from the right lane. Don’t go straight in a lane marked “right-turn only.”

Happy cycling! And don’t forget to wear a helmet!