

## Paint Creek Trail

Follow the course of Paint Creek from Lake Orion to Rochester on the 8.9-mile Paint Creek Trail – a pleasant ride or run through a beautiful natural area and over 12 restored railroad bridges.

The Paint Creek Trail Commission purchased the abandoned railway from the Penn Central Railroad in 1983 to create Michigan's very first 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.

This popular trail attracts over 100,000 users annually. The city of Lake Orion is now building an extension that will route the trail through the downtown area.

## Paint Creek to Polly Ann Trail Connector

If you would like to continue your journey from the Paint Creek Trail to the Polly Ann Trail (or visa versa), you will need to head west on Golden Gate Street, just south of Lake Orion. At Lapeer Road (M-24), a very busy thoroughfare, travel south along the sidewalk to Clarkston Road, cross at the intersection and proceed west on the Orion Township Safety Path along the north side of Clarkston Road.

## 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

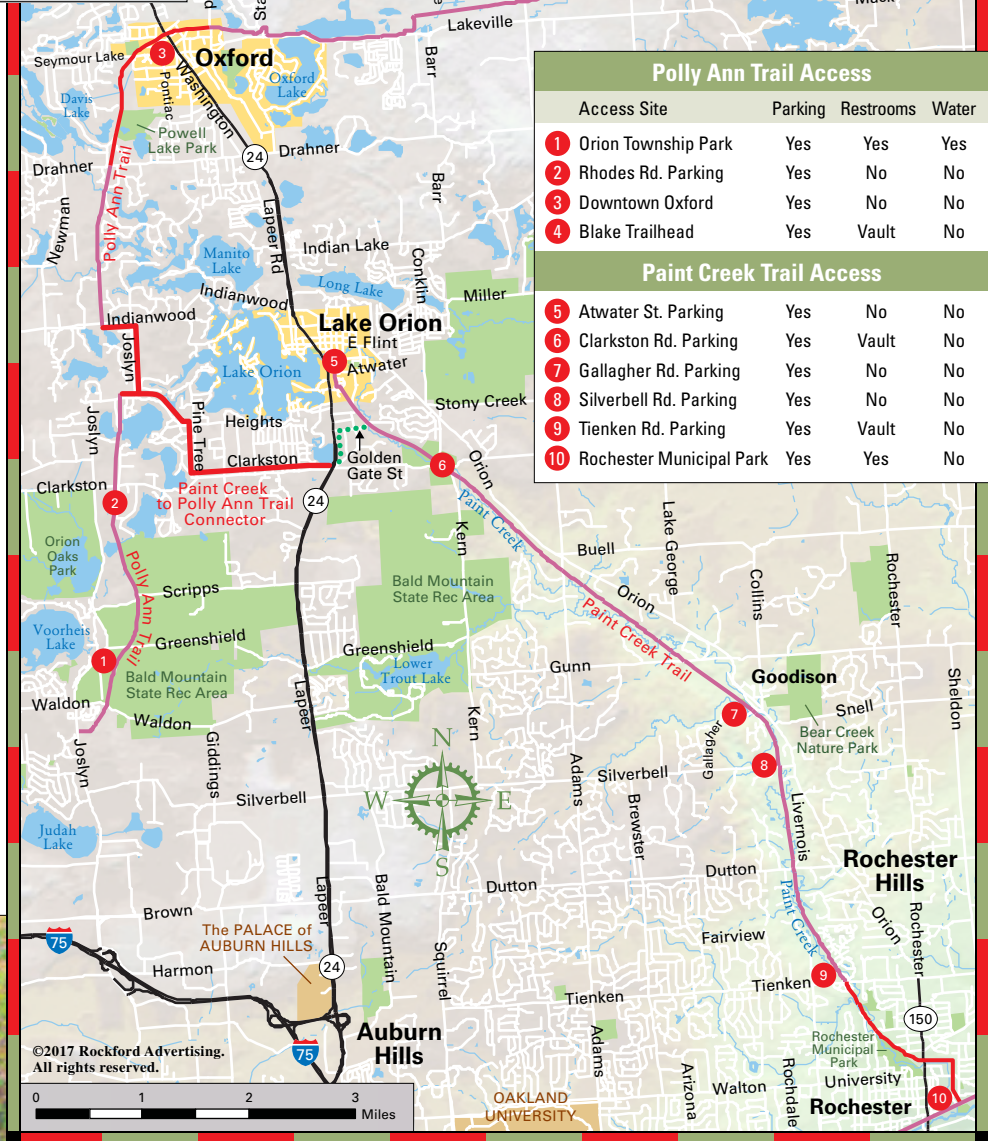
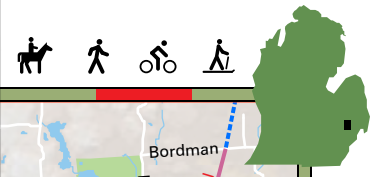


The Paint Creek Trail crosses 12 restored railroad bridges.

Photo by David Rivett

**Trails Legend**

- Paved Trail
- Limestone Trail
- ⋯ Connector Route
- - - Proposed or Planned Trail
- Highways
- Roads



Ride through the fall colors between Oxford and Leonard on the Polly Ann Trail.

Photo by David Rivett

the PO&N Railroad, which was never profitable and rarely arrived on time. 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, the trail travels 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 surface is currently undeveloped. Equestrian use is permitted from Oxford to Bordman Road.

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