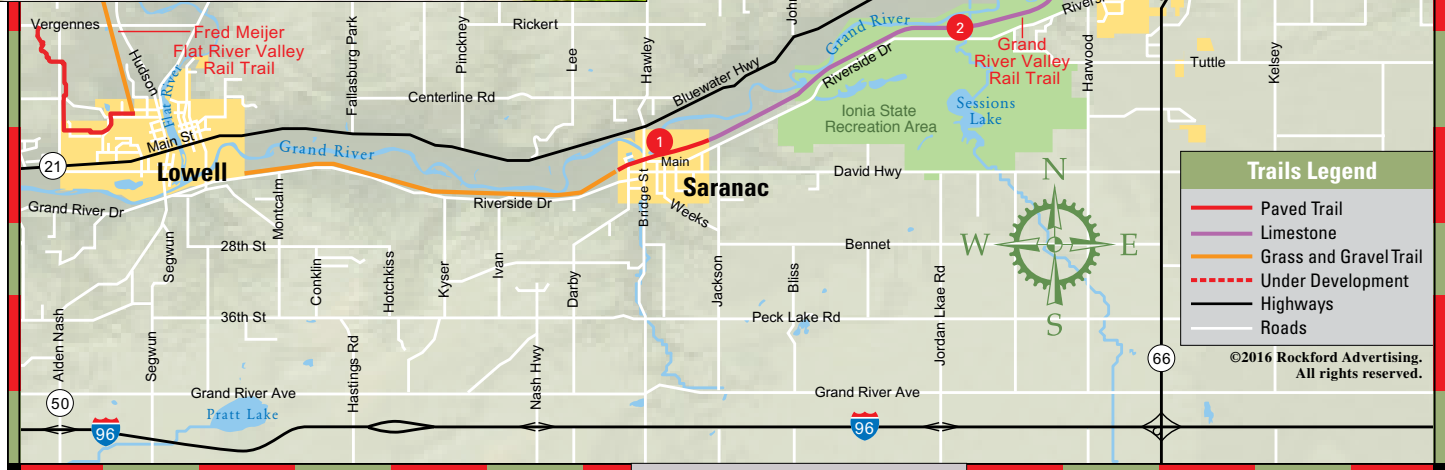




The Saranac-to-Ionia section of trail crosses over five restored railroad bridges.

Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Trail Access			
Access Site	Parking	Restrooms	Water
1 Saranac Trailhead	Yes	Yes	Yes
2 Ionia State Rec Area	Yes	Yes	Yes
3 Adams St. Parking	Yes	No	No

Ionia River Trail Access			
Access Site	Parking	Restrooms	Water
4 Ionia County Fairgrounds	Yes	No	No
5 Cleveland Street Parking	Yes	No	No
6 Quarry Road Parking	Yes	No	No



Trails Legend

- Paved Trail
- Limestone
- Grass and Gravel Trail
- Under Development
- Highways
- Roads

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Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Rail Trail • Ionia River Trail

Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Rail Trail

The 17-mile Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Rail Trail is getting closer to completion. During the summer and fall of 2015, another 1.75 miles of paved trail was extended east from downtown Ionia to the Prairie Creek bridge and the Fred Meijer Clinton-Ionia-Shiawassee (CIS) Rail Trail. The project also included construction of a beautiful new pedestrian bridge providing safe passage over busy M-66. The Michigan DNR is currently seeking funding to complete the 7-mile section of trail connecting Saranac with the City of Lowell.

The first 8.25 miles of trail from Saranac to Ionia was completed in 2013. This exceptionally scenic section of trail travels along the edge of the Grand River and through the Ionia State Recreation Area, with no road crossings, for a peaceful, serene commune with nature. It also includes an amazing five restored railroad bridges, including one towering bridge spanning 466 feet across the mighty Grand River. Trail users have reported a lot of wildlife sightings along this stretch of trail, including whitetail deer, turkey, great horned owls, eagles, a wide range of waterfowl, and even the rare pine marten.

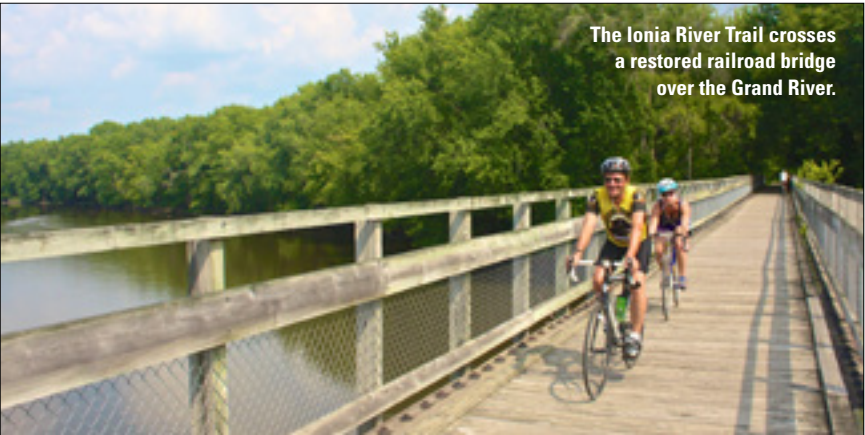


New pedestrian bridge over M-66 near downtown Ionia (during construction).

The trail surface consists of about one mile of asphalt pavement through Saranac, and about 3.75 miles of pavement through the City of Ionia, with the rest of the trail in between surfaced with finely screened and compacted crushed limestone. Saranac and Ionia offer plenty of parking, stores and eating establishments. The Saranac Depot serves as the trailhead in Saranac and includes a nature trail, picnic area, restrooms and a historical museum, all situated beside the river. In downtown Ionia, public parking is available on Adams Street, one block east of the new M-66 bridge.

Ionia River Trail

The 3-mile Ionia River Trail (a.k.a. Fred Thwaites Grand River Trail) travels along the edge of the Grand River from the Ionia County Fairgrounds to Quarry Road. Paved with asphalt, much of the trail was built on an abandoned rail corridor that once connected Ionia to Lansing. Ride through a lush wooded area and cross a restored railroad bridge over the Grand River. A new spur of the trail is under development that will connect with the Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Rail Trail one block west of Jackson Street.



The Ionia River Trail crosses a restored railroad bridge over the Grand River.