



Recommended Road Bike Routes

- Excellent
 - Good
 - Fair, Use Caution
 - National Bike Route
 - Bike Lane
- Trails**
- Paved Trail
 - Unpaved Trail
 - Dirt Trail
 - Walking Trail
 - Coming 2021/2022
 - Planned Trail
 - Water Trail

About Our Bicycle Route Rating System

- CAR-FREE ROUTES (TRAILS)**
Suitable for bicyclists of all levels and ages. Separated and protected from motor vehicle traffic.
- EXCELLENT**
Suitable for bicyclists of all levels. Smooth riding surface with a marked bikeway, a designated bike route, or preferable conditions for shared lane riding.
- GOOD**
Suitable for advanced and some intermediate bicyclists. Smooth riding surface and good connection. Requires moderate traffic tolerance and riding skills.
- FAIR**
Best available route in the vicinity. Suitable for advanced cyclists. Use caution.

Places

- Outdoor Adventure Sites
- Shirley Heinze Land Trust Site
- Mountain Bike Trail Site
- Bike Shop
- Boat Launch
- Trail Parking
- South Shore Line Station (Bike Access Allowed)
- Amtrak Station
- Metra/CTA Station
- Trails and Transit Bus Stop
- Railroad
- Waterbodies
- Airport
- Parks and Recreational Area
- County Boundaries

Map Sponsors

www.greenwaysfoundation.org

www.arcelormittal.com

www.fleetfeetschererville.com

www.southshoreva.com

www.goodspeed-cycles.com

www.indianadunes.com

www.nps.gov/indu

www.a1cyclecenter.com

www.trailblazersbikebarn.com

www.nipSCO.com

www.trekbikeshop.com

www.ridgecycle.com

www.calumetcollaborative.org

www.michiganacity.com

www.indianatrails.com

www.bikestorecycling.com

www.heinze-trust.org

- #### Trail & Route Symbol Guide
- American Discovery Trail
 - Calumet Trail
 - C&O Greenway
 - Dunes Kankakee Trail
 - Erie Lackawanna Trail
 - Grand Illinois Trail
 - Great American Rail-Trail
 - Lincoln Memorial Trail
 - Little Calumet River Levee Trail
 - Marquette Greenway
 - Monon Trail
 - Oak Savannah Trail
 - Penny Greenway
 - Prairie Duneland Trail
 - Veterans Memorial Trail
 - US Bike Route

Sharing the Trail

Keep to the right.
Yield to people walking and slower moving traffic except when passing. Slow down when there are lots of users on the trail.

Use your path.
Don't bike on designated walking or running paths.

Be careful at crossings.
Look both ways. People biking: yield to through traffic at intersections. Remember, people walking have the right of way. People walking: exercise caution. Be aware that people biking and skating require lots of room to stop.

Advise others when passing.
Sound your bell or horn or call out when approaching people walking or people biking more slowly. Then pass safely on the left.

SAFETY NOTICE: The Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) has published this map to help residents of NW Indiana and beyond enjoy our region by non-motorized travel options. Regarding bicyclists, while most of the routes on this map are not signed or designated bike routes, Indiana law allows bicyclists on all roads except limited access highways and roads marked as prohibited. Users of this map should be aware that potential hazards and obstructions may exist on the routes shown and that NIRPC and Active Transportation Alliance in no way warrant the safety or fitness of the suggested routes. This map does not expand the liability of NIRPC to bicyclists and paddlers beyond existing law. The user of this map bears the full responsibility for his or her safety.

Call NIRPC at 219-763-4060 to request a copy of this map or other free publications, or visit www.nirpc.org. This map will be updated and reprinted on a regular basis. Suggestions to improve the map and accompanying information are always welcomed by Active Transportation Alliance and NIRPC. Staff: Public Domain Document, 2020 by NIRPC.

Shirley Heinze Land Trust
Connecting Communities to Nature
Visit a preserve near you!
www.heinze-trust.org

LOOK FOR OUR FERN LOGO TO FIND OUR PRESERVES!

Visit Douglas Nature Center
The Douglas Nature Center provides maps, interactive exhibits, a Nature Play Zone for families, hiking trail to the beach and access to Miller Woods. Open all year - contact the Center staff at 219-395-1824 for more information.

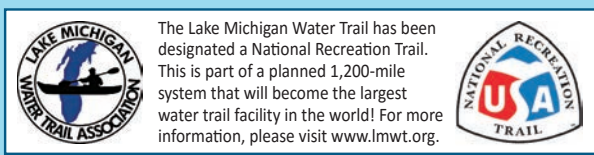
Get Involved

South Shore Trails
NW Indiana's premiere advocacy group for bicycling and walking routes. Please visit them at www.southshoretrails.org.

Active Transportation Alliance
Chicago's voice for better walking, biking and transit. Please visit them at www.activetrans.org.

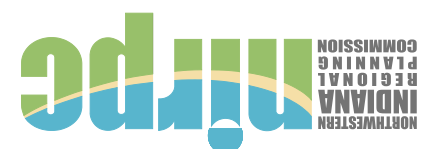
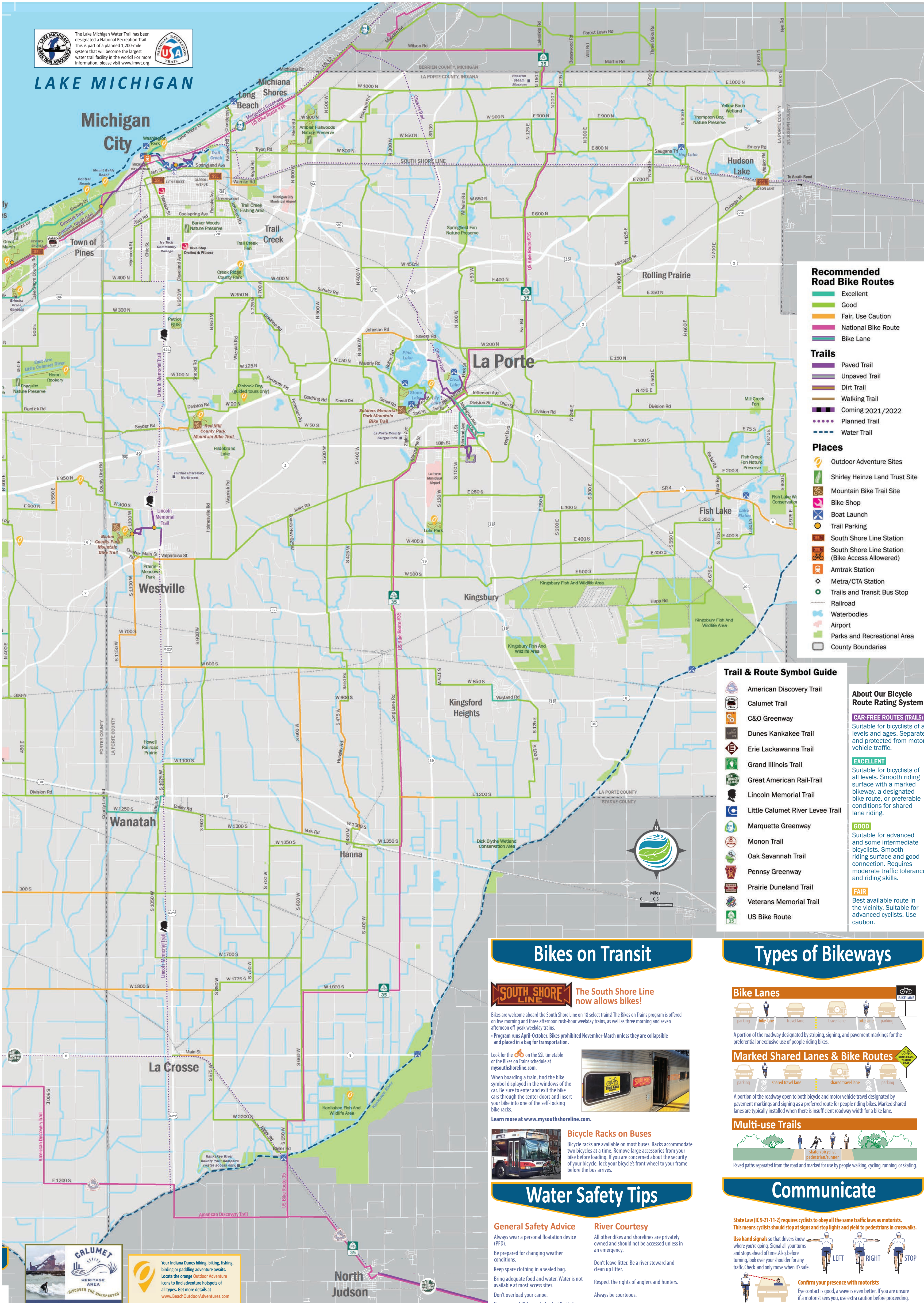
NW Indiana Paddling Association
Advocates for paddling opportunities, environmental stewardship and education. Please visit them at www.nwipa.org.

NW Indiana Regional Greenways & Blueways Map
represents a major planning element of NWI 2050. For more information on the contents of this plan, please visit www.nirpc.org.



LAKE MICHIGAN

Michigan City



2020 EDITION
NORTHWEST INDIANA REGIONAL MAP
GREENWAYS + BLUEWAYS

Recommended Road Bike Routes

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair, Use Caution
- National Bike Route
- Bike Lane

Trails

- Paved Trail
- Unpaved Trail
- Dirt Trail
- Walking Trail
- Coming 2021/2022
- Planned Trail
- Water Trail

Places

- Outdoor Adventure Sites
- Shirley Heinze Land Trust Site
- Mountain Bike Trail Site
- Bike Shop
- Boat Launch
- Trail Parking
- South Shore Line Station
- South Shore Line Station (Bike Access Allowed)
- Amtrak Station
- Metra/CTA Station
- Trails and Transit Bus Stop
- Railroad
- Waterbodies
- Airport
- Parks and Recreational Area
- County Boundaries

Trail & Route Symbol Guide

- American Discovery Trail
- Calumet Trail
- C&O Greenway
- Dunes Kankakee Trail
- Erie Lackawanna Trail
- Grand Illinois Trail
- Great American Rail-Trail
- Lincoln Memorial Trail
- Little Calumet River Levee Trail
- Marquette Greenway
- Monon Trail
- Oak Savannah Trail
- Pennsy Greenway
- Prairie Duneland Trail
- Veterans Memorial Trail
- US Bike Route

About Our Bicycle Route Rating System

CAR-FREE ROUTES (TRAILS)
Suitable for bicyclists of all levels and ages. Separated and protected from motor vehicle traffic.

EXCELLENT
Suitable for bicyclists of all levels. Smooth riding surface with a marked bikeway, a designated bike route, or preferable conditions for shared lane riding.

GOOD
Suitable for advanced and some intermediate bicyclists. Smooth riding surface and good connection. Requires moderate traffic tolerance and riding skills.

FAIR
Best available route in the vicinity. Suitable for advanced cyclists. Use caution.

Bikes on Transit

South Shore Line now allows bikes!

Bikes are welcome aboard the South Shore Line on 18 select trains! The Bikes on Trains program is offered on five morning and three afternoon rush-hour weekday trains, as well as three morning and seven afternoon off-peak weekday trains.

- Program runs April-October. Bikes prohibited November-March unless they are collapsible and placed in a bag for transportation.

Look for the on the SSL timetable or the Bikes on Trains schedule at mysouthshoreline.com.

When boarding a train, find the bike symbol displayed in the windows of the car. Be sure to enter and exit the bike cars through the center doors and insert your bike into one of the self-locking bike racks.

Learn more at www.mysouthshoreline.com.

Bicycle Racks on Buses
Bicycle racks are available on most buses. Racks accommodate two bicycles at a time. Remove large accessories from your bike before loading. If you are concerned about the security of your bicycle, lock your bicycle's front wheel to your frame before the bus arrives.

Water Safety Tips

General Safety Advice

Always wear a personal flotation device (PFD).
Be prepared for changing weather conditions.
Keep spare clothing in a sealed bag.
Bring adequate food and water. Water is not available at most access sites.
Don't overload your canoe.
Know your abilities and physical limitations.
Leave a trip plan with friends/family.

River Courtesy

All other dikes and shorelines are privately owned and should not be accessed unless in an emergency.
Don't leave litter. Be a river steward and clean up litter.
Respect the rights of anglers and hunters.
Always be courteous.

Types of Bikeways

Bike Lanes

A portion of the roadway designated by striping, signing, and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of people riding bikes.

Marked Shared Lanes & Bike Routes

A portion of the roadway open to both bicycle and motor vehicle travel designated by pavement markings and signing as a preferred route for people riding bikes. Marked shared lanes are typically installed when there is insufficient roadway width for a bike lane.

Multi-use Trails

Paved paths separated from the road and marked for use by people walking, cycling, running, or skating.

Communicate

State Law (IC 9-21-11-2) requires cyclists to obey all the same traffic laws as motorists. This means cyclists should stop at signs and stop lights and yield to pedestrians in crosswalks.

Use hand signals so that drivers know where you're going. Signal all your turns and stops ahead of time. Also, before turning, look over your shoulder for any traffic. Check and only move when it's safe.

Confirm your presence with motorists
Eye contact is good, a wave is even better. If you are unsure if a motorist sees you, use extra caution before proceeding.

See. Be seen. Be heard. Use lights at night or when visibility is poor. A white headlight and rear red reflector or taillight are required by state law (IC 9-21-11-9). Flashing lights are especially effective. Use bike reflectors, reflective clothing and a bell.

Never use earplugs because you won't be able to hear what's going on around you. Using earplugs is not only dangerous, it's illegal.

Always wear a bicycle helmet to reduce the risk of permanent injury or death from a crash. To make sure your helmet fits correctly, put it on and use the "eyes, ears, mouth" test. **EYES:** When you look up, you should see the front rim. If not, your helmet won't protect your forehead. **EARS:** The side straps should come to a "Y" just below each ear. **MOUTH:** When you open your mouth wide, you should feel the helmet push down on your head. If your helmet doesn't pass the test, adjust its buckles.



This map was developed by the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC), in partnership with generous sponsors. Having celebrated 50 years of regional collaboration, NIRPC is on the forefront of the Region's transformation into a quality-of-place talent attractor, leveraging the Region's unique assets for the benefit of all the Region's communities by working together for a better future.

NIRPC Represents:

- 3 Counties
- 41 Cities & Towns
- 3 Townships
- 3 County Surveyors
- Governor's Appointment
- Total of 53 Elected Officials at the table

NWI 2050
Long-range plan for Lake, LaPorte and Porter Counties that takes a bold approach by planning at the center of linkages between transportation, the environment, land use, and economic development.

Greenways+Blueways 2020 Plan
An integrative planning document that highlights the benefits and relationships of both environmental and non-motorized transportation planning across NWI through three main topics: conservation, recreation, and transportation.

NIRPC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization and Regional Council of Governments for Northwest Indiana. NIRPC's purpose, as put forth in Indiana state statute, is to "provide a coordinative management process for Lake, Porter and LaPorte Counties and to institute and maintain a comprehensive planning and programming process for transportation, economic development and environmental policy."

www.nirpc.org

Sharing the Road

