

# Along the trail to the Twin Locks

As you travel along this 2.6 mile section of the Canal trail from Metamora to the Twin Locks, you will see a combination of historic structures and natural scenery that is hard to beat. From the parking lot near the Duck Creek Aqueduct, walk a short distance down the gravel road to the red barn. This will bring you to the trail entrance.

**1. Duck Creek Aqueduct:** Across the road from the parking lot is an aqueduct, which is basically a bridge that carries water over the creek. The design of this aqueduct is unique: it is the only covered bridge aqueduct in the United States. State Historic Site maintains this structure. It also operates horse drawn canal boat trips that go through the aqueduct.

**2. Lock # 24:** This restored structure shows us how canal locks worked. Locks are used to raise or lower canal boats so they can follow the level of the surrounding countryside. Locks were often the location of water-powered mills. Lock 24 was previously the site of a woolens mill, and the group of buildings that developed around it was known as “Millville”. In 2005, restoration work was performed to make this lock structurally sound and fully operational.

**3. Milepost 51:** Railroad mileposts such as this one are reminders that the railroad also used this historic canal corridor. Amazingly, canal boats operated here for just a few years during the 1840s and 1850s. Repeated floods and the greater speed of the railroads quickly led to the installation of railroad tracks on the canal’s towpath. Railroads carried freight and passengers for the next 120 years.

For the next mile, you will have a panoramic

view of the Whitewater valley as you travel along farm fields with wooded hillsides in the distance. Seasonal changes make this an interesting and enjoyable walk all through the year.

**4. Milepost 50 “End of the Tracks”:** This location is 50 railroad miles from Cincinnati Ohio. The tracks that end here are part of the Whitewater Valley Scenic Railroad, which maintains the track and still operates a limited schedule of train rides.

The next half-mile of the trail goes through a wooded area. The forest here is fairly young. The trees along the trail have grown up since the railroad stopped running in the 1970s. Even so, the trail has the feel of a woodland tunnel. Watch for trees that the beavers have been chewing on. You could also see a wide variety of birds including wood ducks, herons, woodpeckers and more.

**5. River Overlook:** Stop for a few minutes to enjoy this beautiful view of the Whitewater River. This river view is located near the site of the old

“Good Luck Fishing Camp.” This section of the Whitewater River offered good fishing and, in the late 1800s and early 1900s, this location was popular enough that there was a railroad stop for the camp.

Even today, the river continues to attract many admirers who enjoy the recreation that it offers. This can be seen by the private campground that borders the trail for the next 1/4 mile.

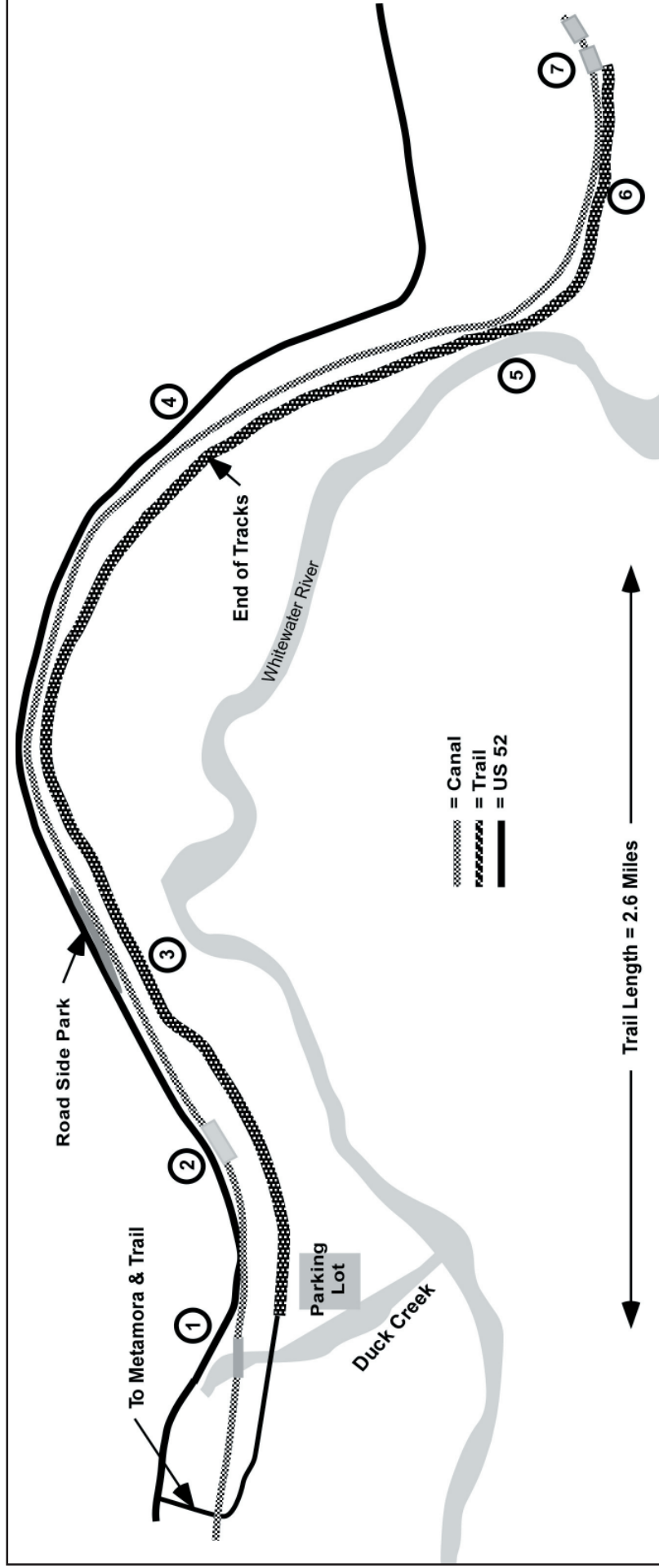
You might notice the remains of some old cars on the river bank near the overlook. This is not just an example of dumping junk in the river—years ago old cars were placed on the bank to help control erosion, with little success.

**6. State Record Hickory:** As you leave the wooded area, you will see a private residence on the other side of the road. The large tree in the front yard is the Indiana State Record Shellbark Hickory tree. Data is collected on trees of various species and the trees are rated according to three measurements (circumference at 4.5 feet from the ground, tree height, and the width of the crown) Please remember that this tree is on private property.

**7. Twin Locks Area:** About 500 feet past the hickory tree, you will see a side trail to the left. This side trail takes you past Lock 23. As you walk you will see the stone wall of the lock, and then get a view of the entire lock from water level. Compared to Lock 24, this lock gives us an idea of how much work is involved in restoring and maintaining a canal lock. For your safety, and to help preserve this historic structure, please do not climb or stand on the walls of the lock.

After you return to the main trail you will pass milepost 49. In another 500 feet, you will reach Lock 22. This area is called “Twin Locks” because it is unusual for two locks to be this close together. Generally, locks are 1 to 3 miles apart on this section of the canal.

This is the end of this section of the Canal Trail. Eventually, the trail will continue all the way to Brookville, but for now the trail is not open beyond this point.



The path of the Whitewater Canal Trail is part of the Whitewater Canal State Historic Site. The members of Whitewater Canal Trail Inc. are pleased to be working in cooperation the Indiana Department of Natural Resources as we build and maintain the trail.

For more information:



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The purpose of Whitewater Canal Trail Inc. is to foster activities along the Whitewater Canal corridor that focus on

- historical preservation and interpretation
- outdoor recreation
- and natural resource conservation

while promoting sustainable development and improved quality of life in connected communities.

Please contact us about membership and volunteer opportunities.



Franklin County, Indiana

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**Help us make the trail a success.  
Please observe the following  
so everyone can enjoy the trial.**

#### Trail Rules

1. In the event of an emergency, telephone 911.
2. Be safe and courteous.
3. Respect the rights of other trail users.
4. This is a primitive trail; please proceed at your own risk.
5. Keep young children in your sight at all times.
6. Horses and Motorized vehicles are prohibited on trail corridor.
7. Use of alcohol or drugs prohibited.
8. Trail open from dawn to dusk.
9. Respect the privacy of adjacent landowners. Stay on trail.
10. Leave no trace; be sure to pack out at least as much as you pack in.
11. Be sensitive to the earth beneath you, wet and muddy trails are more vulnerable to damage.
12. All pets must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet or confined and under control at all times.
13. Pet owners are required to remove pet waste.
14. Firearms and hunting of any kind are prohibited including bow and arrows.
15. Do not disturb wild animals or trail vegetation.
16. Do not climb on historic aqueduct or locks.
17. No overnight parking.



Canal boat floats through the covered bridge aqueduct. (# 1 inside)

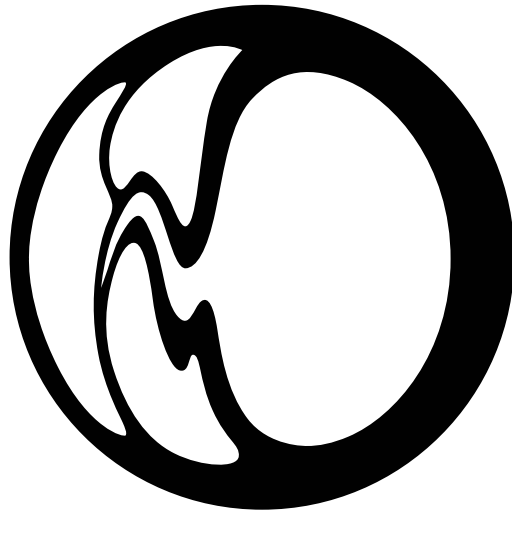


Hiker walks through the "woodland tunnel" (#4 inside)



View from the Good Luck Camp river overlook (#5 inside)

# Whitewater Canal Trail



# Metamora Trailhead