

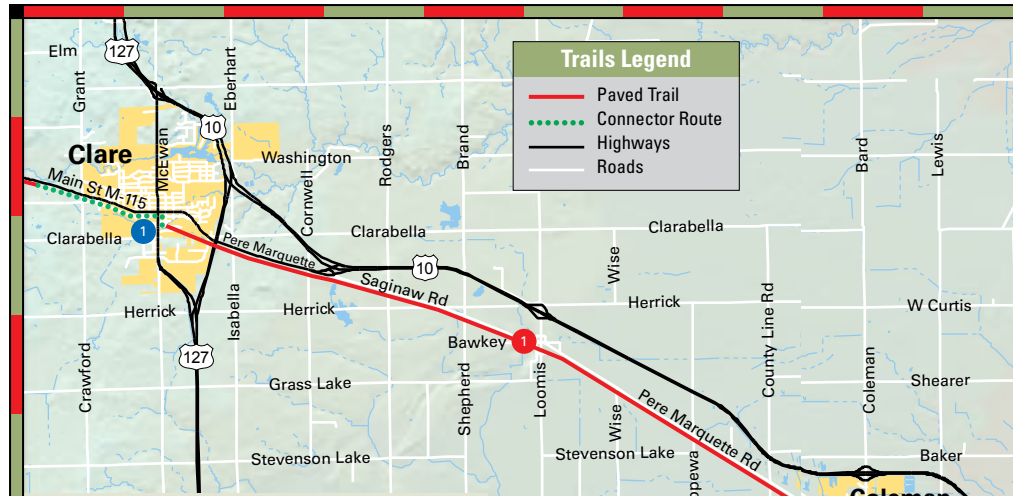


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Pere Marquette Rail-Trail

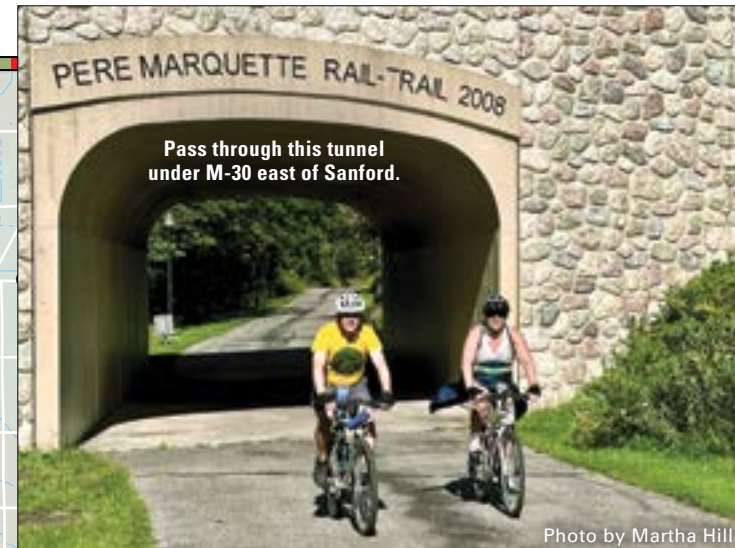
Racing from Clare to Midland, the Pere Marquette Rail-Trail is one of Michigan's most widely used and nicely maintained nonmotorized multi-use trails. So highly regarded, it was inducted into "The Rail-Trail Hall of Fame" by the national Rails-to-Trails Conservancy.

The 30-mile asphalt trail crosses several bridges and travels through a series of small towns with plenty of stores and restaurants to stop for lunch or a cool drink along the way. A separate path for horseback riding runs parallel to the trail for 5 miles between Coleman and North Bradley. The entire trail is closed to snowmobiling, but is open for year-round use. This is a flat, fast, exceptionally smooth trail, making it an easy ride for people of all ages and abilities.

For a day trip, we recommend starting your journey at the downtown Midland Staging Area where you can check out "The Tridge," a unique three-span bridge crossing the confluence of the Tittabawassee and Chippewa rivers. As you head west, the trail passes by the Northwood University campus and Dow Historical Museum. You will also pass by several small parks, memorials, historic sites and natural areas as you travel through Sanford and Coleman on your way to Clare. To connect with the Pere Marquette State Trail (going west to Ewart, Reed City and Baldwin), you must ride along the shoulder of M-115 for 2.3 miles to Moose Lodge Staging Area.

Chippewa Trail

Like to add a few more scenic miles to your trail adventure? In Midland, you can cross "The Tridge" to ride along the 3.5-mile Chippewa Trail, a nonmotorized, paved pathway that meanders through the Chippewa Nature Center. Interpretive signs along the way tell the story of this unique landscape.



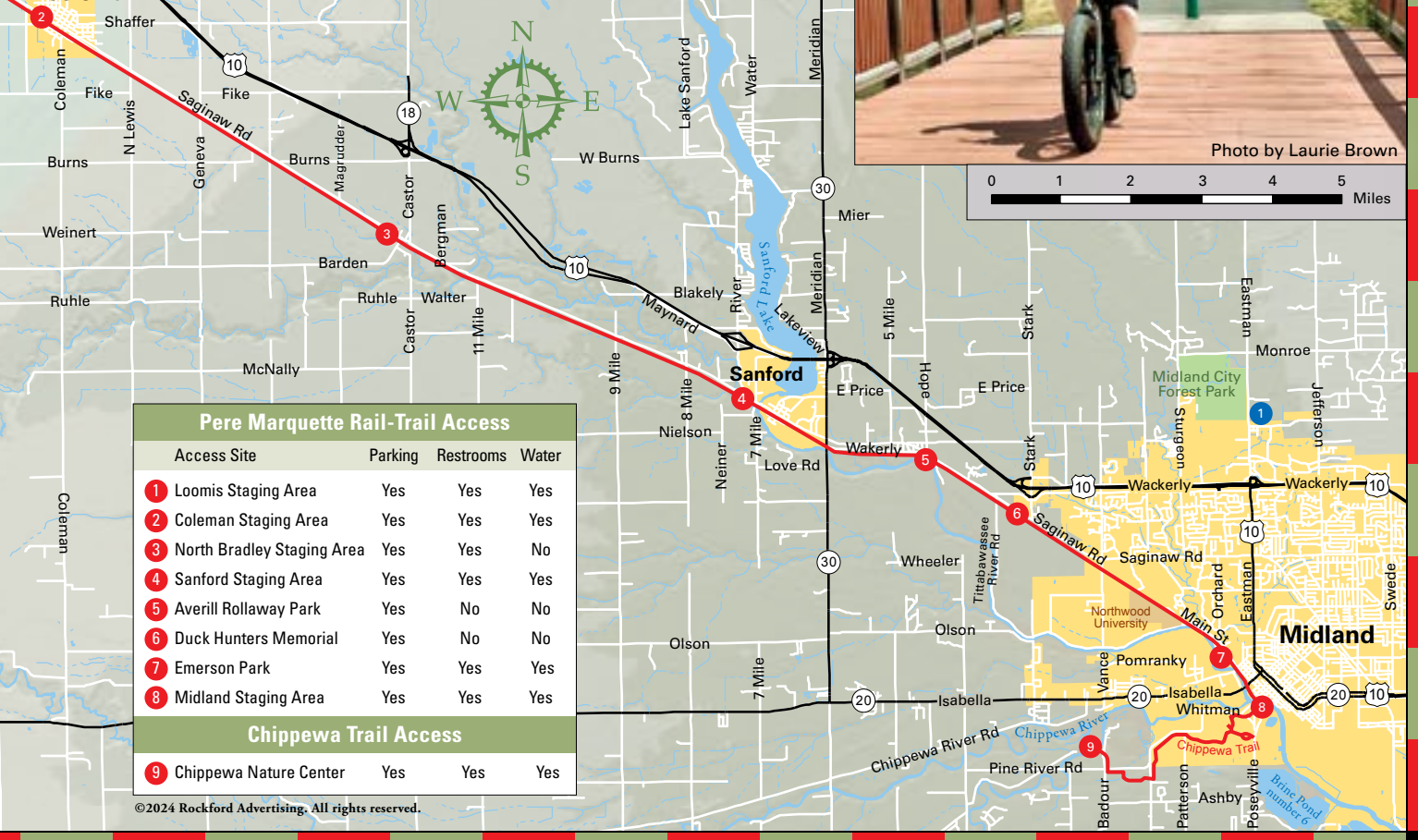
Pass through this tunnel under M-30 east of Sanford.

Photo by Martha Hill



"Look mom, no hands." Tom and Piper on the trail near Clare.

Photo by Laurie Brown



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YOUR TRAIL

Needs a Friend

Do you use the Pere Marquette Rail-Trail?

Our National Rails to Trails Hall of Fame trail is a Michigan treasure... and it needs your help. Friends of the Pere Marquette Rail-Trail provides funding and volunteer-power to help maintain the quality of our trail. Join our cause! Single memberships start at only \$15 a year.

www.PereMarquetteRailTrail.org

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