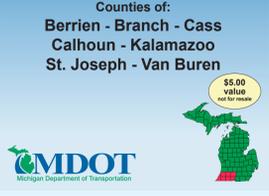


Southwest Region

Road and Trail Bicycling Guide

3rd Edition



TOURIST INFORMATION

- Vacation and accommodation information can also be obtained from the following organizations. Information can also be obtained at Michigan's 14 Welcome Centers, located on major highways throughout Michigan.
- Travel Michigan**
www.Michigan.org - 888-784-7328
 - Southwestern Michigan Tourist Council**
www.swmichigan.org - 269-925-6301
 - West Michigan Tourist Association**
www.wmta.org - 616-245-2217
 - Battle Creek/Calhoun County Visitor and Convention Bureau**
www.battlecreekvisitors.org - 800-397-2240
 - Branch County Tourism Bureau**
www.discovermichigan.com - 800-968-9333
 - Cass County**
<https://www.facebook.com/discovercasscounty/>
 - Harbor Country Convention and Visitors Bureau**
www.visitharborcountry.org - 269-469-5409
 - Kalamazoo County Convention and Visitors Bureau**
www.discoverkalamazoo.com - 800-888-0509
 - River Country Tourism Bureau (St. Joseph County)**
<http://stjoe2o.com/> - 269-467-5617
 - South Haven/Van Buren County Convention and Visitors Bureau**
www.southhaven.org - 800-764-2836
www.stayinginpawpaw.org - 800-764-2836
 - St. Joseph Today**
www.stjoetoday.com - 269-985-1111
 - Michigan Farm Market/U-Pick Guide**
www.michiganfarmfun.com - 616-952-1151

LEGEND

TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

Vehicle Traffic Volume* (Vehicles per Day)

- Unpaved
- Paved
- Paved

Minor Roads/No Data**
Light (2,500 to 10,000)
Medium (10,000 to 25,000)
Heavy (Above 25,000)

Limited Access Highways
Active Rail Line
Amtrak***

*Traffic volume is estimated based on an average 24-hour period. Rush hour peak period traffic volume can be much greater than at other times of the day. Traffic volume also varies by season and day of week.
**Minor roads generally have lower traffic volume but road width and surface type may make them less appropriate as a bike route. Contact local county road commissions for more information.
***Amtrak trains in Michigan consist of passenger rail services with some restrictions. Visit www.amtrak.com for more information.

BICYCLE AND SHARED USE PATHS

- Improved Shared Use Regional Path (Paved or Crushed Fine)
- Unimproved Shared Use Regional Path (Gravel or Dirt)
- Local Shared Use Path
- North Country National Scenic Trail
- U.S. Bicycle Route

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

- Camground (In State and County Parks)
- Mountain Biking

POINTS OF INTEREST

- Amtrak Station
- Carport Parking Lot
- College/University
- Hospital
- Trail Head

SERVICES

CITY/VILLAGE NAME
Full Service (food and lodging)
City/Village Name
Some Services (food or lodging)

LAND USE

- County Boundary
- Incorporated City & Village Limit
- Lakes/Water
- River/Stream
- Park/Preserve
- State Land
- Federal Land

BEFORE YOU USE THIS MAP

This guide has been developed by the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission as an aid to bicyclists and is not intended to be a substitute for a person's use of reasonable care. The user of this map bears full responsibility for his or her safety. The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission makes no express or implied guarantee as to the safety or condition of the roads and paths shown and has no responsibility for maintaining them. Conditions indicated on the map are subject to change. Be prepared to make your own assessment of traffic, roads, and trails and plan routes appropriate to your riding skills.

All public and private entities and persons involved in the creation of this map disclaim responsibility and shall not be answerable or held accountable in any manner for loss, damage or injury that may be suffered as the result of the use of this map.

MAP INFORMATION

The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission produced this map in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Transportation, regional and local government agencies and nonprofit organizations throughout southwest Michigan.

This map is made possible through the Federal Highway Administration and published with Federal Highway funding; 30,000 copies printed at a total cost of \$10,114.00, or \$0.34 per copy.

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To order additional maps, please visit the Michigan Department of Transportation website at: www.Michigan.gov/MDOT/biking and select Maps and Brochures.

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425 West Ottawa Street
P.O. Box 30050
Lansing, MI 48909

MDOT Kalamazoo Region Office
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

BICYCLING TIPS AND BEST PRACTICES

Rights and Responsibilities

In general, bicyclists on public roadways have the same rights and responsibilities as motor vehicle drivers and are subject to the same state laws and local ordinances. For everyone's safety, observe these bicycling rules and safety tips.

Check your Bike

Be sure your brakes work and tires are inflated properly.

Always Wear an Approved Helmet

Always wear your helmet fitted and adjusted properly. Helmets should fit snugly so they do not move around while riding.

Be Courteous and Respectful on Trails

Show courtesy to all trail users. Adhere to trail hours and restrictions. Respect the privacy rights of adjacent property owners along the trail.

Safety Accessories

Water bottles, tire repair kits, mirrors, locks, and first aid kits help make each trip safer and the bicyclist more self-sufficient.

Watch for Hazards

Watch out for sewer grates, slippery manhole covers, oily pavement, snow and ice. Cross railroad tracks at right angles. It is okay to leave a bike lane or paved shoulder if hazards such as debris and poor pavement conditions make it unsafe.

Wear Appropriate Clothing

Wear light, bright and/or reflective clothing at all times of the day and night to improve your visibility. Dress in layers and bring gear for unforeseen changes in weather.

BIKES AND STATE LAW

Ride as Far to the Right as Practicable

Bicyclists should keep as far to the right as practicable, moving left to avoid hazards and to position themselves in the appropriate designated through or turn lanes.

Use Lights and Reflectors at Night

State law requires a white light visible for 500 feet and a red reflector visible for 600 feet at night. A flashing red light is recommended. More reflectors and stronger lights make you more visible.

Use Hand Signals

Hand signals tell pedestrians and motorists what you intend to do. It is state law that you use signals.

Carrying Items

If you plan on carrying any packages, bundles or objects, you must be able to keep both hands on the handlebars. A variety of racks, packs and trailers can be fitted to your bicycle to transport goods.

Always Yield to Other, Slower Trail Users

When operating on a shared use trail or sidewalk, bicyclists must yield the right of way to pedestrians and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian. When overtaking, announce your intentions by saying "passing on your left" or ringing your bell.

Keep to the Right and Ride Only Two abreast

No more than two bicyclists should ride side by side in a public roadway.

Ride With Traffic

State law requires bicyclists to ride with the flow of traffic. Motorists are not looking for bicyclists riding on the wrong side of the road. Always obey traffic signals, signs and lane markings.

WHERE TO RIDE

On the Road

Bicycles are permitted on all Michigan highways and roads EXCEPT limited access freeways or unless otherwise posted. Bicycles are allowed on all road systems including those in state forests, state parks, national forests and national parks.

State Parks

Bicycles are currently allowed on all paved and non-paved roads in Michigan state parks. Bicycles may also be ridden on designated bike paths. Mountain bikes are allowed only on trails designated for bicycle use. For general recreation questions, please e-mail DNR-ParksAndRecreation@Michigan.gov or call 517-284-7275. www.Michigan.gov/DNR

Great Lake to Lake Trail Route #1

This will be a 300-mile trail connecting Lake Michigan in South Haven to Lake Huron in Port Huron utilizing local trails and routes, including the Kal-Haven, Kalamazoo River Valley Trail, Battle Creek Linear Park, and a number of low volume county roads. <https://michigantrails.org/trails/great-lake-to-lake/>

North Country Scenic Trail

The trail is open to hiking; however, only portions are open to mountain biking. Contact North Country Trail Association at 616-897-6605 or toll-free at 866-445-3628. www.northcountrytrail.org

Iron Belle Trail

The Iron Belle Trail crosses through 48 Michigan counties. Using existing trails, networks and new connections, the trail extends more than 2,000 miles from the far western tip of the Upper Peninsula to Belle Isle in Detroit, with a route of bicycling, and a route of hiking. Through the southwest region, the Iron Belle Trail follows existing and proposed hiking trails. www.Michigan.gov/IronBelle

Local Trail Systems

Many communities have developed their own trail systems. Rules and regulations vary by each individual trail and community. Contact the appropriate jurisdiction for more information.

On Road Bicycle Routes

A few counties in southwest Michigan offer signed bike routes. Find maps and more information at these websites:

Berrien County (Back Road Bikeways)
www.applications.michigan.gov/backroad-bikeways
Phone: 269-756-3361

Kalamazoo - Where to Ride
<https://bikefriendlykalamazoo.org/trails/routes/>

Bikes on Amtrak

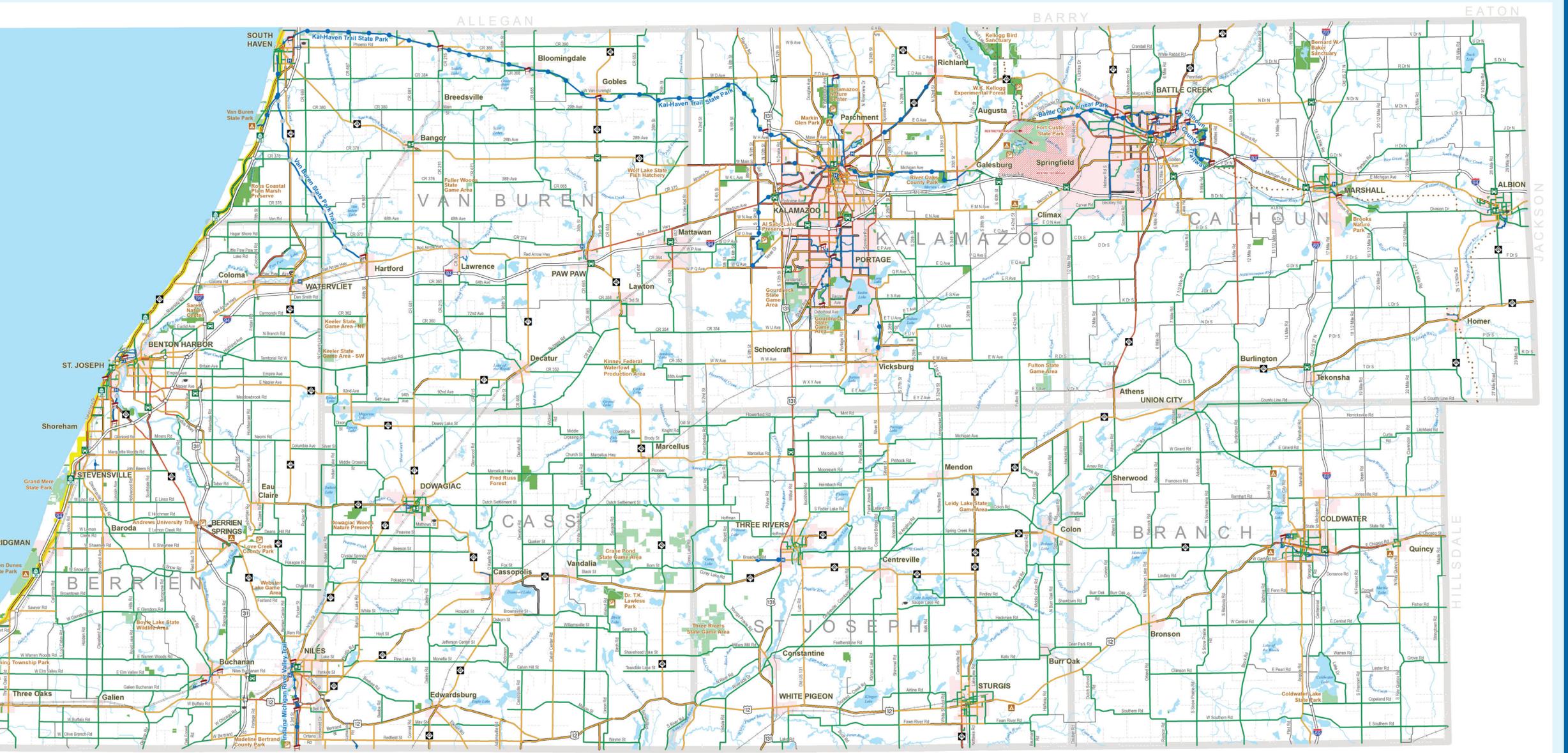
All Amtrak Trains in Michigan accept carry-on bike reservations with some restrictions. Visit www.AmtrakMichigan.com

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN TRAILS

Multi-Use Linear Trails	Description
Battle Creek Linear Trail Battle Creek 269-966-3431	More than 26 miles of paved pathway wind through wooded areas, open fields, parks, and some commercial areas. Historical, cultural, and point of interest signs are also found along the trail. www.bcparks.org/134/linear-park
Indiana Michigan River Valley Trail Kalamazoo 269-373-5073	A 17-mile trail connecting Niles, MI to Mishawaka, IN. www.swmisc.org/indmtrail.asp
Kalamazoo River Valley Trail (KRVT) Kalamazoo 269-373-5073	The KRVT is 22 miles of paved asphalt trail connecting the Kal-Haven trail, the Battle Creek Linear Park, and the Portage Bicentennial Trail. The KRVT passes through downtown Kalamazoo. www.kalcounty.com/parks/krvt
Kal-Haven Trail South Haven 269-637-2788	A 34-mile crushed limestone/slag multi-use trail connecting South Haven and Kalamazoo. There are 11 miles dedicated for equestrian use. www.Michigan.gov/Property/Kal-Haven-Trail-State-Park
Portage Bicentennial Linear Park Portage 269-329-4522	A four-mile multi-use trail that connects to the Portage Bikeway System that has 17.5 miles of off-road trail and 38.5 miles of paved shoulders/bicycle lanes. www.portagegov.com
Van Buren Trail South Haven 269-637-2788	A 13-mile mixed surface trail from South Haven to Hartford, including a connection to Van Buren State Park. www.Michigan.gov/Property/Van-Buren-Trail-State-Park

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN TRAILS

Mountain Biking Trails	Description
Al Sabo Land Preserve Kalamazoo 269-375-1591	Seven miles of mountain bike trails go through this land preserve. Located near Kalamazoo Valley Community College. www.texastownship.org/about-texas-township/parks-facilities/
Andrews University Trails Berrien Springs 269-471-3321	10 miles of challenging mountain bike trails consisting of several different loops. The trails have big hills, big obstacles and deep ravines. There is a parking area off of Campbell Road to access the trails. www.andrews.edu/news/2013/06/Andrews_Trails-A_Be.html
Chikaming Township Park and Preserve Three Oaks 269-469-1676	Six miles of easy to moderate mountain bike trails. There are three loops through a 263-acre preserve located on Warren Woods Road between I-94 and Lakewood Estates. www.chikamingtownship.org/parks-our-parks
Dr. T.K. Lawless Park Cassopolis 269-471-4456	10 miles of tight mountain biking trails for all abilities. M-60 to Lewis Lake Road South on Lewis Lake one mile to Monkey Run Road. Turn east onto Monkey Run Road. The park is on the left. https://www.casscountymi.org/Facilities/Facility/Details/Dr-TK-Lawless-Park-2
Fort Custer Recreation Area Augusta 269-731-4200	25 miles of mountain biking trails. Accessible from Eagle Lake and Whitford Lake parking areas, a designated trailhead and through the campground. www.dnr.state.mi.us/parksandtrails
Kellogg Forest, MSU Augusta 269-731-4597	This area has several two-track roads great for beginner riders. https://www.kalcountymi.org/locations/kellogg-forest/
Love Creek Park Berrien Center 269-471-2617	4.3 miles of beginner to intermediate level mountain bike trails. https://berriencountymi.org/1299/Love-Creek-County-Park
Madeline Bertrand Park Niles 269-683-8280	2.2 miles of trail with a hard-packed, natural surface along the St. Joseph River. https://berriencountymi.org/1298/Madeline-Bertrand-County-Park
Markin Glen Park Kalamazoo 269-381-7570	Only the downhill course is open to biking. This downhill course maximizes the small amount of elevation change available. www.kalcounty.com/parks/markinglen/index.html



LEGEND

TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

Vehicle Traffic Volume* (Vehicles per day)

- Unpaved
- Paved
- Paved with 100 ft or more of shoulders

Minor Roads/No Data**
 Light (Under 2,500)
 Medium (2,500 to 10,000)
 Heavy (Above 10,000)

Limited Access Highways
 Active Rail Line
 Amtrak**

*Traffic volumes are estimated based on an average 24-hour period. Rush hour (peak period) traffic volumes can be much greater than at other times of the day. Traffic volumes also vary by season and day of week.
 **Minor roads generally have lower traffic volumes but road width and surface type may make them less appropriate as bike routes. Consult local county road commissions for more information.
 ***Amtrak trains in Michigan accept carry-on bike reservations with some restrictions. Visit www.amtrak.com or call 800-438-2643 for more information.

BICYCLE AND SHARED USE PATHS

- Improved Shared Use Regional Path (Paved or Crushed Fines)
- Unimproved Shared Use Regional Path (Gravel or Dirt)
- Local Shared Use Path
- North Country National Scenic Trail
- U.S. Bicycle Route

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

- Campground (In State and County Parks)
- Mountain Biking

POINTS OF INTEREST

- Amtrak Station
- Carpool Parking Lot
- College/University
- Hospital
- Trail Head

SERVICES

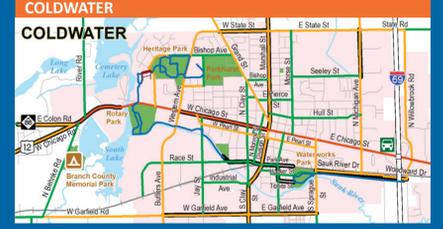
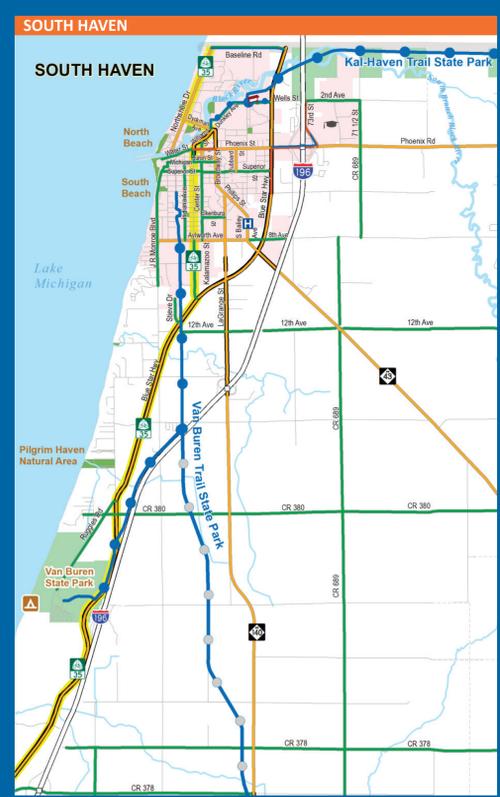
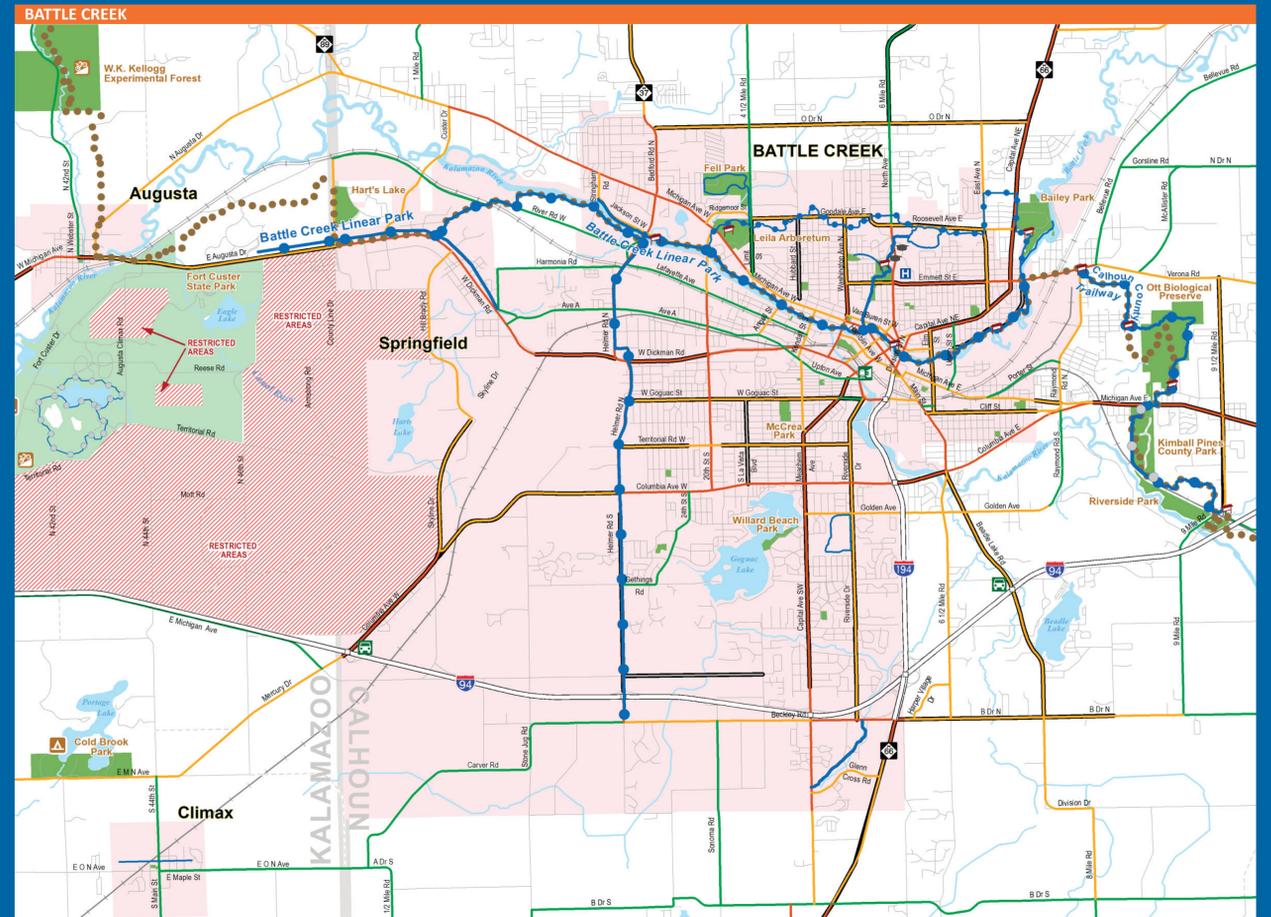
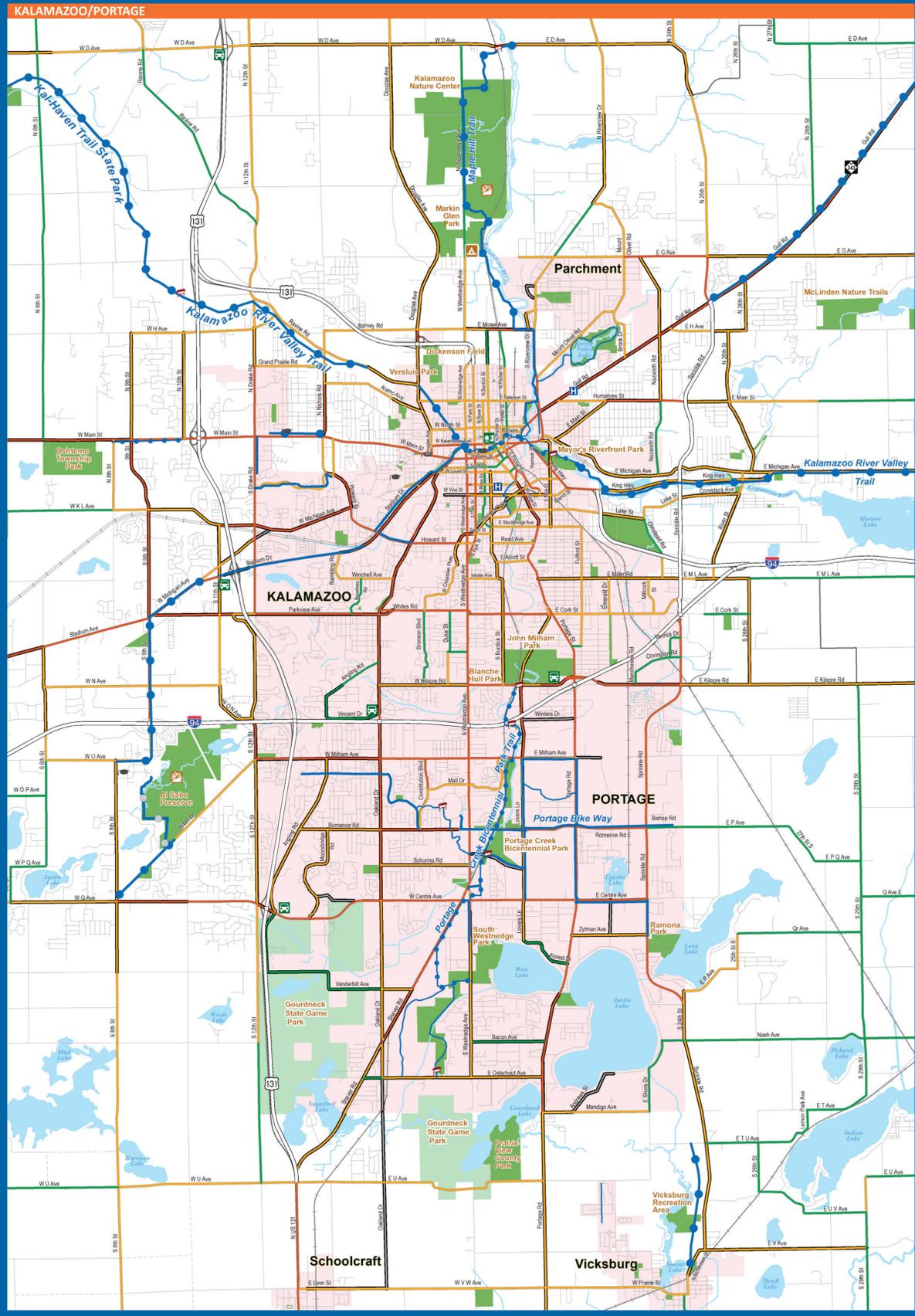
CITY/VILLAGE NAME
 Full Service (food and lodging)
 City/Village Name
 Some Services (food or lodging)

LAND USE

- County Boundary
- Incorporated City & Village Limit
- Lakes/Water
- River/Stream
- Park/Preserve
- State Land
- Federal Land

SCALE OF CITY INSET MAPS

1 inch = 0.85 mile



State Parks and Recreation Areas

www.Michigan.gov/DNR

	Beach House	Biking Trails	Camping	Hiking	Horse Trails	Park Store	Picnic Area	Playground	Restrooms	Swimming	X-Country Skiing
Coldwater Lake State Park 517-780-7866 1491 Exit 3, east on Copeland Road											
Fort Custer Recreation Area 269-731-4200 5163 Fort Custer Drive, Augusta	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grand Mere State Park 269-426-4013 1-94 Exit 22, south on Thornton Drive			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Van Buren State Park 269-637-2768 23960 Ruggles Road, South Haven		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Warren Dunes State Park 269-426-4013 23032 Red Arrow Highway, Sawyer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Warren Woods State Park 269-426-4013 1-94 Exit 6, east on Elm Valley Road		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

