Located in Northeast Iowa, the Rolling Prairie Trail is 21-miles in length. This hard surface trail connects Shell Rock, Clarksville, Allison, and Bristow, all in Butler County. You will find a nice mixture of natural canopy and scenic bridges. Riders enjoy viewing wildlife and native prairie along this former railroad right of way. The loop inside Heery Woods State Park provides a dense tree-filled wooded landscape. There are benches along the route as well as wayfinding signs including kiosks at each trail head with trail maps and local amenities information. Each trail section is approximately seven miles in length between towns.

Outdoor recreation enthusiasts love this trail, as you can also camp and go kayaking all at one destination! Public campgrounds are adjacent to the trail in both Allison and Clarksville, and only minutes away in Shell Rock. Access points for the Shell Rock River are easy to find near the trailheads in Clarksville and Shell Rock.

You can take a break from riding in each of the communities, with local restaurants, bars and seasonal ice cream shops. You will find several bike shops nearby in the Waterloo/Cedar Falls area.

Expansion of the trail into neighboring Bremer and Franklin Counties is anticipated in the future, as funding becomes available. Currently, a bike lane adjacent to Iowa Highway 3 allows users to ride to nearby Waverly from Shell Rock, if they choose.

If you are planning a visit, please stop by our website or call to get our free Destination Butler County Visitor's Guide. 319.267.2858



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This guide paid for in part by the Iowa Tourism Office



Rolling Prairie Trailheads

Shell Rock

- Located 1/3 mile north of Highway 3 on T-63
- Parking, kiosk with maps and information
- Shelter, restroom, and bike repair station located at city hall (Intersection of Hwy 3 & T-63)
- ATM at Kwik Star

Clarksville (two locations)

- Volunteer Park Trailhead one block east of Hwy 188 on Oakland Street
- Parking, restrooms, bike repair station
- Heery Woods State Park Trailhead just inside main entrance, north of river bridge on Hwy 188
- Parking, kiosk with maps and information
- ATM at Casey's and Iowa State Bank

Allison

- Located one block east of downtown off South Railroad Ave
- Parking, kiosk with maps and information
- Bike repair station
- Restrooms at Wilder Park
- ATM at Casey's and Lincoln Savings Bank

Bristow

- Located on Grand Avenue east side of town
- Parking, kiosk with maps and information
- Bike repair station
- Restrooms at city park, two blocks west
- Ice Cream Shack located at city park



Rolling Prairie Trail



User's Guide & Map









