

There are more than 60 miles of wonderfully scenic bike trails currently open in the Quad Cities urban area. The trails are built alongside the Mississippi River and its tributaries. These trails are mostly flat, hard surfaced and free of charge.

Duck Creek Parkway (Iowa) -----

This trail is the oldest bike trail in the Quad Cities. Its origins date back to the 1930s when it was initially planned as a "park road" to connect Davenport's city parks. During the 1970's, it was redesigned to be a bike/pedestrian trail. Therefore, some sections of the trail are actually a 2-lane road. It has taken a good 25 years to get all the sections completed beginning at Emeis Park on the west end of Davenport to Devils Glen Park on the east end in Bettendorf. The present length of the trail is 13.5 miles and the scenery along the way includes: parks, wooded areas with deer, golf courses and limestone bluffs. The trail crosses Duck Creek over 10 times with various types of bridge materials. There are plans to extend the trail even further at both the east and west ends. At the east end near State Street in Bettendorf, the plans are to eventually connect to the Mississippi River Trail along the Mississippi River.

Mississippi River Trail (Iowa) -----

The Mighty Mississippi River is one of the grand waterways of the world. The Quad Cities has two riverfront trails that offer a marvelous opportunity to experience the river "up close and personal." The Mississippi River Trail begins at Credit Island in west Davenport and ends at the border with the city of Bettendorf. While riding this 6.6-mile trail, you will almost always be in sight of the Mississippi River. Along the way, you will see many quiet "beach" areas and unique outdoor sculptures, pass through busy downtown Davenport, travel past Lock and Dam #15 of the Corps of Engineers and the Village of East Davenport. The Village dates back to Civil War Days and offers numerous shops

and restaurants. It is also in this area that you may take a ride on the Channel Cat and cross the river with your bike. There are plans to extend this trail into Bettendorf and hook up with some existing sections of trail on the Bettendorf levee.

Great River Trail (Illinois) -----

The 60 plus mile Great River Trail (Illinois) follows the Mississippi River from Rock Island to Savanna. The trail starts in Rock Island's Sunset Park, where a 2.3-mile section offers great views of the Mississippi River. The 4-mile section from downtown Rock Island to Moline passes Sylvan Island, which provided hydropower to Arsenal Island in the 1800s and early 1900s, and the Quad Cities Botanical Center. The trail continues along the river to an area near downtown Moline behind The Mark of the Quad Cities (Civic Center), the Radisson Hotel and John Deere Commons. The trail continues along the Mississippi River north through Moline. As you enter East Moline, you will ride on top of a levee that protects the large manufacturing interests of Deere & Co and Case/NH. The section of trail in Hampton will take you through a wildlife preserve and old Civil War Era downtown. As you head farther north, the towns become smaller and further apart. The one-way distance between Sunset Park and Cordova is 30 miles alone!

Hennepin Canal Parkway (Illinois)

Built around the turn of the century, the Hennepin Canal was an effort to link the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers by water. Today, it is owned by the State of Illinois and offers a unique 70-mile plus greenway from the Quad Cities to the Illinois River. There are a few paved sections of this trail around Rock Island, Milan and Colona. At present most of this trail is best suited for mountain biking. There are plans for paving additional sections of the trail and for linking it up to the I & M Canal Trail which starts in LaSalle Peru and continues east to Joliet IL.

