

*Extending from the City of Rochester through Rochester Hills, Oakland Township, and Orion Township to the city limits of Lake Orion, this “Rails-to-Trails” project has become a model for similar projects in the State.*

Working closely with the Paint Creek Trailways Commission, the Johnson Hill Land Ethics Studio explored the various means for developing a multi-use trail along a former rail corridor in Oakland Township. A principle goal was to provide a non-motorized recreation trail for a wide variety of uses, such as walking, jogging, bicycling, and horseback riding.

Because of the wide variety of anticipated users, careful consideration was given to trail surface materials, trailway alignment, crossing configurations, and edge treatments. Although deferred to a later phase, creative re-use of abandoned railroad equipment was a feature of the early design effort.



The trail has both urban and rural components and is a major recreation and tourism asset for the four original communities. The Paint Creek Trail opened to the public in 1990, and is one of the primary components of the Oakland County Trail Network.



## Paint Creek Trail

*Oakland County  
Michigan*

Paint Creek Trailways Commission

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