

Explore the Meramec Greenway: Lions Park to Route 66 State Park



Get out and play in the many local Eureka parks and Route 66 State Park that celebrates “The Mother Road.”



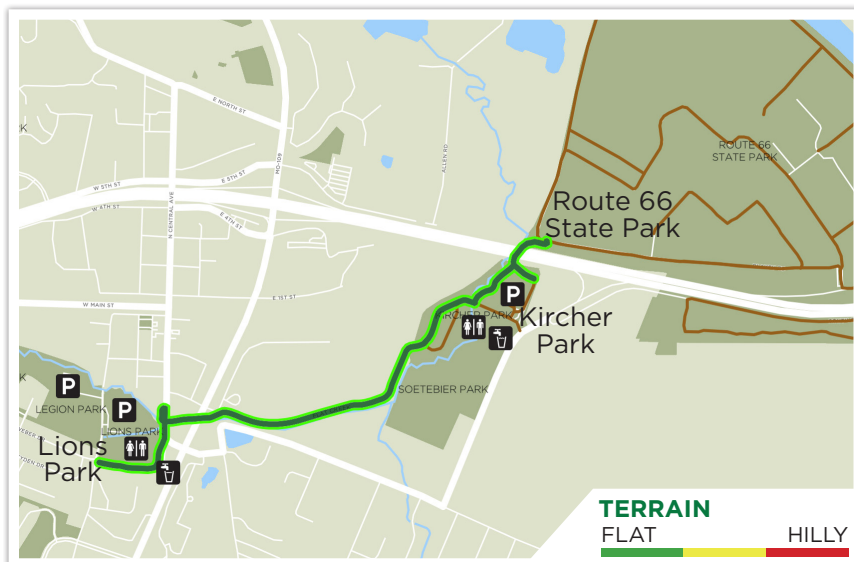
DISTANCE

4.5 miles from Lions Park to Route 66 State Park and back



TIME

2.5 hour walk/45 minute bike



TRAIL SURFACE

Asphalt surface separated from the road



RESTROOMS AND WATER

Restroom and drinking fountain available in Route 66 State Park, Kircher Park, and Lions Park.

GETTING THERE

Vehicle parking is available at Lions Park (340 Bald Hill Road, Eureka, MO 63025), Kircher Park (25 Williams Road, Eureka, MO 63025), and Route 66 State Park (97 North Outer Road, Eureka, MO 63025). Note that the Route 66 State Park Visitor Center is not accessible by foot or bike from the park and may only be accessed by vehicle from I-44 exit 266.

For more info, call Great Rivers Greenway at **314-436-7009**
or visit **www.GreatRiversGreenway.org**

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WHILE YOU'RE EXPLORING

- » Explore the history of Route 66 in the Route 66 State Park Visitor Center
- » Grab a bite to eat along Central Ave.
- » Play a game of tennis or pickleball in Lions Park
- » Fish on the Meramec River in Route 66 State Park
- » Birdwatch - can you spot any of the 40 different bird species who live in or visit Route 66 State Park?
- » Paddle along the Meramec River from the boat ramp in Route 66 State Park

LEARN ABOUT THE AREA

Have you ever taken a road trip to explore new places? Many greenways such as the Meramec Greenway follow transportation routes that converged in St. Louis. With origins as a major trail for the ancestral and historic Osage people, Route 66 ("The Mother Road") exposed millions of Americans to small towns across the country. Step back in time at the Route 66 State Park Visitor Center, a former inn and tavern that dates back to the 1930s. It was once a popular place for dining, drinking, dancing, and gambling along the original Route 66.

In the 1920s, this area along the banks of the Meramec River was a summer resort for St. Louisans called Times Beach. With the onset of the Great Depression and then World War II rationing, the resort became a low-income housing community. In the 1970s, the dirt roads in the community were repeatedly sprayed with waste oils to control the dust. This waste oil had been negligently contaminated with dangerous chemical waste. By 1985, all 2,000+ residents of Times Beach had been relocated so the area could be cleaned up. Soil sampling completed by the Environmental Protection Agency in 2012 showed that the area is clean and no longer poses health risks to visitors or workers. The area is now Route 66 State Park.

GREENWAYS CONNECT US ALL

Greenways are outdoor spaces connecting people and places.

Each greenway is unique, reflecting the character of the communities it connects. Greenways can include **trails, conservation projects** such as rain gardens and restored prairies, **amenities** like restrooms and drinking fountains, and **connections** to businesses, neighborhoods, parks, schools, waterways and transit. There are over 125 miles of greenways throughout St. Louis City, St. Louis County and St. Charles County for you to explore and enjoy.