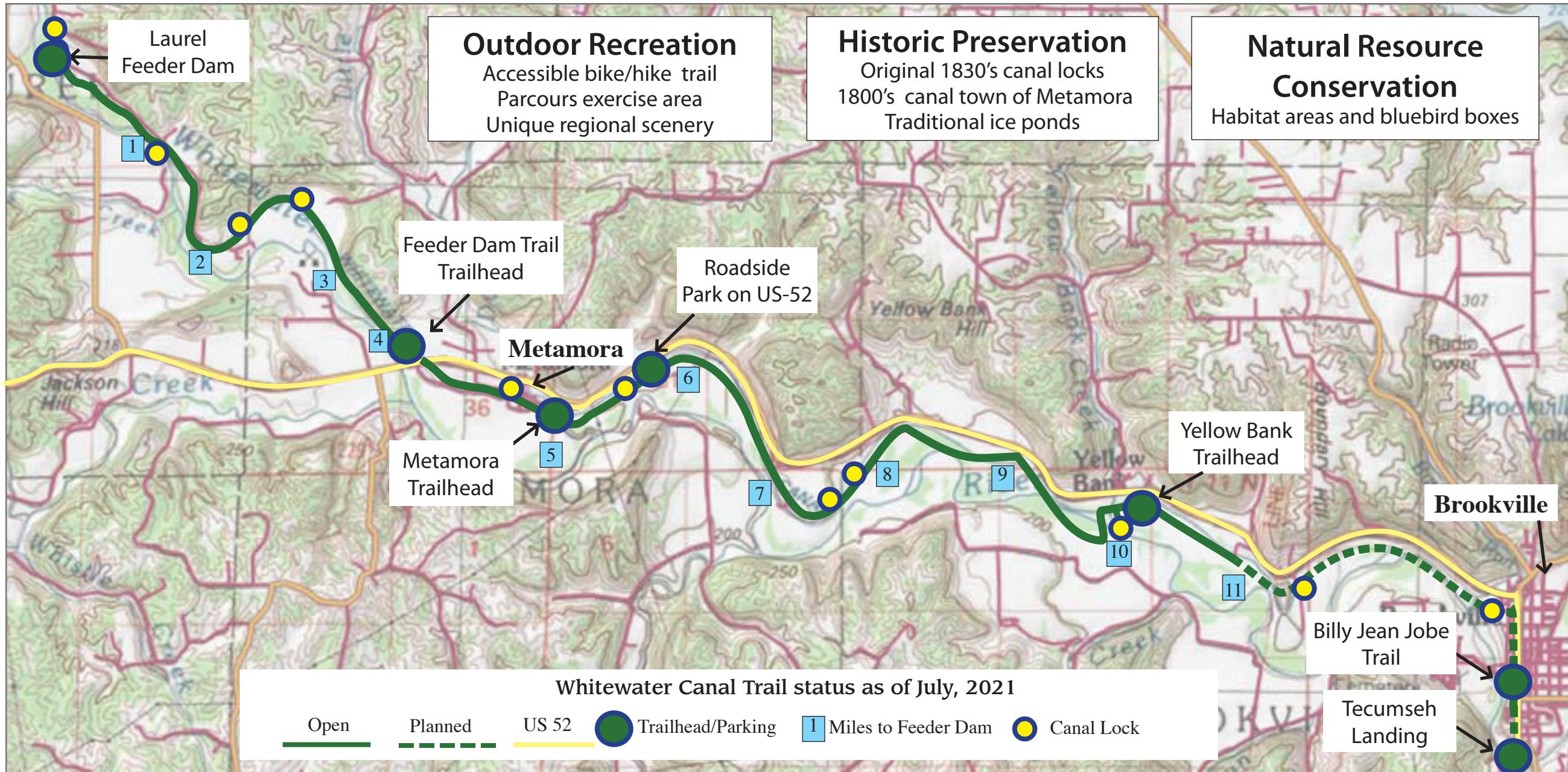




The Whitewater Canal Trail offers you:



Exploring the Whitewater Canal Trail

The route of the Canal Trail from the Laurel Feeder Dam in the west to Tecumseh Landing in the east is unsurpassed in its combination of authentic canal structures, intact canal era buildings and natural scenery. It offers visitors a long list of opportunities that cannot be found elsewhere.

The canal was built in the 1830s, opening the Whitewater River valley for commerce and industry, and establishing new communities. A number of towns, like Metamora, were actually platted right along the canal. The canal provided access to markets for agricultural products and supplied hydraulic power for mills and factories that made flour, lumber, paper and more. Eventually a railroad was built on the canal's towpath, creating an even more efficient transportation corridor. The canal's water flow continued to provide power for the mills.

Visitors to the Metamora section of the Canal Trail will see some of the best examples of authentic canal structures anywhere. You can park near the historic mill in "downtown" Metamora and walk about a half-mile east through historic Metamora to the Duck Creek Aqueduct. Or, you can park in the lot near the aqueduct. From there, the trail travels 2.6 miles along the Whitewater River valley, bordering farm fields and passing through wooded areas to the "Twin Locks."

The Feeder Dam Trail will cover four miles, from the US 52 trailhead near Metamora, to the Laurel Feeder Dam. The feeder dam is a small dam on the Whitewater River used to divert water into ("feed") the canal. Phase 1 of this section, about two miles long, opened in

October of 2019. It ends at Dam Road, which is a narrow, gravel county road. Along this section, you will visit two historic canal locks as you travel along the canal in a quiet woodland setting. Phase 2, planned for completion in July of 2021, will complete the trail to the feeder dam.

At the Yellow Bank Trailhead, there is about one mile of trail. To the east, the trail passes a number of interesting features, including a wildlife habitat planting and the site of an old ice-harvesting pond. Just a few hundred yards to the west of the parking lot, you will see the remaining stone walls of the Yellow Bank Lock. You can walk right into the center of the old lock chamber and then climb the steps to the top of the wall for a view of the entire lock.

When completed, the trail through Brookville will present even more canal's history. Two small parts of the planned trail in Brookville are now open to the public—but they're a bit hard to find. Parking for a short section of the Billy Jean Jobe Trail is on 7th Street, about two blocks west of Main Street.

Tecumseh Landing is located at the south end of Brookville. Park near the Family Dollar Store and then take a brief walk, crossing the railroad track and ending on a gravel beach on the bank of the beautiful Whitewater River.

Construction of the two final sections of the Whitewater Canal Trail is planned for 2021 to 2023. When completed, the trail will be nearly 14 miles long. It will follow the Whitewater Canal from the Laurel Feeder Dam all the way to the Town of Brookville.

The Whitewater Canal Trail is part of the Whitewater Canal State Historic Site. Whitewater Canal Trail, Inc. is pleased to be working in cooperation the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources as we build and maintain the trail. For more information on the Historic Site:
www.indianamuseum.org/
whitewater-canal-state-historic-site
or: facebook.com/WhitewaterCanalSHS



You Can Help!

Whitewater Canal Trail Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit with broad-based support from both public and private funding sources. These include the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, the Far Hills Family Fund, Brookville Foundation, Franklin County Tourism, Franklin County Community Foundation and many other groups and individuals.

If you would like to make a contribution or volunteer some time to support the trail, see:

www.whitewatercanaltrail.com or
facebook.com/whitewatercanaltrail

Whitewater Canal Trail



**Laurel Feeder
Dam to
Brookville
Indiana**