

Grand Forks Community Trails



1. City Park Loop | Easy | 900 m

Part of the Great Trail, this easy paved and lit walk circles City Park along the Kettle River. Enjoy riparian areas, beach access for swimming and tubing, City Campground, BMX track, a splash park, playground, and shaded picnic tables. **ACCESS:** Park next to the TransCanada Trail kiosk at the south end of 4th St.

2. Black Train Bridge (BTB) Trail | Easy | 1.9 km one way

Easy paved and lit walk/ride follows a rail grade into Ruckle, offering wild Saskatoon berries in June/July, and apples in September. Look for birds and otters as you cross the Kettle River over the Darrel Priede memorial trestle bridge (southside stairs lead to the beach) into Ruckle. Note: 25 m remains gravel following 2018 flood. **ACCESS:** From the north end, park at Station Pub. The wide paved trail heads south just behind the pub; at Hwy 3 cross safely at the 19th St. lights and return to the trail. Limited parking at the kiosk on Kettle River Rd. at 12th St.

3. Waterfront Trail | Easy | 3 km one way

Easy paved walk/ride section of the Great Trail follows the Kettle River east, with water views and opportunities to spot wildlife, especially deer, otter and birds. Access the river at Nursery Bridge for summer swimming and tubing. **ACCESS:** Park at kiosk on 68th Ave., just east of 2nd St., or at Nursery Bridge end on Negraef Rd. or Popoff Rd. You can also start your walk/ride from City Park but this requires travel on roadways. Follow the Great Trail signs.

4. Riverside Trail | Easy | 2.4 km one way

Level crushed gravel trail from City Park to Barbara Ann Park follows the Granby River under large cottonwoods from the Forks to Highway 3; cross at 2nd St. and return to the trail behind the diner. Continue north on a shaded path past Corners Beach to Barbara Ann Park. In summer, tubers can put in at Barbara Ann, float to the Corners, walk back and repeat! **ACCESS:** Park at south end of 4th St. Walk along 72nd Ave. to Riverside Dr.; the trail starts on the river at the Forks. Alternatively, park at Barbara Ann Park at the end of 82nd Ave. off Riverside Dr.

5. Riverside Meadows | Moderate | 2.3 km one way

Just past Barbara Ann Park, the Riverside Meadows Trail weaves through the forest on the shoulder of the Granby River Gorge. Watch for wildlife on the challenging switchbacks that take you to moss-covered rocks, providing a great view of the historic dam site, the Granby Gorge, and the grasslands east of the river. **ACCESS:** Park next to the kiosk at the end of 85th Ave. The trail follows the river north below a subdivision; once you pass the homes you'll find half-hidden trails to public but secluded sandy beaches and swimming holes.

6. Damsite Trail | Easy | 1.4 km one way

This heritage rail trail follows the Granby River south. From the parking area, follow the trail, keeping left, passing public access trails to the river for swimming and fly-fishing. Watch for osprey and eagles. The trail ends 30 m above the river on the edge of a steep precipice that is the footing of the CPR trestle. The view is breathtaking and the artifacts amazing but keep away from the edge. **CAUTION:** Keep children close and dogs must be on leash.

ACCESS: From town, drive up North Fork Rd. past Ward Lake. Watch for a road next to the Rodeo Grounds sign on the right, before Eagle Ridge Rd. Parking is at a gate 200 m down the gravel road.

7. Observation Mountain Trails | Hard | 2.75 km one way

Nicknamed the Grand Forks Grind, short but steep trails take you to the top of Observation, to the star that shines over Grand Forks at night. Stop at Perepelkin Bench at the first lookout to enjoy the scenery; switchbacks get you to the top for spectacular views. Watch for basking rattlesnakes in summer and bears in spring and fall. **ACCESS:** Park at the kiosk at the top of 2nd St., about three blocks north of Central.

8. Valley Heights | Moderate/Hard | 2.2 km or more one way

Explore and look for mule deer, marmots, snakes, birds and bighorn sheep along with great views and wild fruit. Several trails lead from the end of Valley Heights Dr. at Victoria Way and from the end of Winnipeg Ave.

ACCESS: Cross over the Granby River Bridge and immediately turn left at the restaurant onto Granby Rd. then right on Valley Heights Dr. Trailhead parking is at Victoria Way or at the end of Winnipeg Ave. Avoid blocking traffic or hydrants.

9. Evergreen Cemetery | Easy | 2.4 km loop

This gentle walk takes you through quiet neighborhoods, a historic cemetery, and a wildlife area. The trail starts next to Johnson Slough where birds and deer are in abundance. Stroll under shady trees in the cemetery and study the graves of those who once walked our streets. Explore quiet neighborhood streets to make this a longer walk.

ACCESS: Park at the dog park on 18th St., just south of 66th Ave.

10. Under Observation Trail | Easy | 2 km, 3.5 km, or 6.1 km loop

This trail heads west through a lovely marsh – listen for frogs in spring and watch for birds and deer all year. Walk to the end of the gravel trail and back again, or continue along Coalshute to make a loop via the signed Great Trail to the Black Train Bridge, onto Kettle River Dr. and 7th St. back to the parking area. For a shorter loop, turn at Coalshute onto 17th St. to 77th Ave., through the high school field to the end of 9th, down Reid's Hill and on the trail back to the parking spot. **ACCESS:** Take 7th St. north off Central to the end, turn left on 76th, then right down the gravel road to the green City building. Park there.

11. Saddle Mountain Trails | Hard | 2 km one way to the top

These steep hand-carved trails are a real workout, but the views and the forested paths are worth it! The trails are well marked with hand-made shake signs and rock towers. The trail to the beacon from Hardy Mountain Rd. climbs 300 m in 1.6 km. On the way up look for the Saddle Bluffs trail that is an alternate loop across the mountain top. **ACCESS:** There are two ways to access these trails. For a challenging climb, park on Hardy Mountain Rd. at the curve, across from the trailhead. For a moderate option, start on the west side. Drive up Reservoir Rd. from the south or just keep driving up Hardy Mountain Rd. and turn left at Reservoir Rd. Park in the field next to Saddle Lake. A short walk leads to the footbridge across the spillway to reach the trails.

12. Vancouver Victoria & East Trail (VV&E) - West section | Moderate | 3.8 km one way

Great year-round for walkers and cyclists. The trail passes through forests and grasslands with spectacular valley views. Flowers are everywhere, and look for bird nest boxes, water troughs and old fruit trees that still provide, from the railway days. The West trail ends at Reservoir Rd., or cross it to continue on VV&E East. **ACCESS:** Take Hwy 3 west of Grand Forks up and around Spencer Hill. Just past the gravel pit, you'll see a lane on the right (north), across from Gibbs Creek FSR, with space for two vehicles. From there, walk up the slope to the rail bed and head east, toward Grand Forks. You can also park at the other end of the trail – see access instructions for **Trail 13**.

13. Vancouver Victoria & East Trail (VV&E) - East section | Moderate | 1.4 km one way

Great views for the courageous! This narrow trail, occasionally quite rocky, has a steep drop-off to one side. As the trail is on private property, use this trail at your own risk. The trail bends with one particularly rough area with

loose shale; watch your footing. You'll enjoy great views of Grand Forks and the valley. This is an in-and-out route; happily, the views are even better on the way back. **ACCESS:** The trail starts off Reservoir Rd., but as parking is extremely limited, park at the Boundary Museum, 600 m down the road. If you do park on Reservoir Rd., stay south of the sharp curve.

14. Highway 3 Trail | Moderate | 6.5 km one way

Established for a future link with the Ferry County Rail Trail in the U.S., this paved trail parallels roadways to connect Highway 41 (which goes to the U.S. border crossing at Danville) with the Great Trail. From the junction of Hwy 3 and 41, head east on the south side of Highway 3 to Cemetery Frontage Rd., along Hall Frontage Rd., and all the way into town to where it joins the BTB section of the Great Trail just east of 19th St. A busy road route so stay alert! **ACCESS:** At the junction of Highway 3 and 41, there is a church within sight with plenty of parking.

15. North Fork Trail | Moderate | 21.7 km one way from Eholt

This well-loved trail is a mixed-use recreational trail that takes mountain bikers and hikers along the CPR heritage rail bed above the Granby Valley, with a wide crush surface from North Fork Rd. to Goat Mountain FSR. North of Goat the trail offers excellent cycling as well. In winter the GFCTS has it groomed and tracked for Nordic skiers to Fisherman FSR, with room for walkers and snowshoers. **ACCESS:** The best way to do this trail is downhill, but you will need two vehicles. Drop one vehicle off in Grand Forks and drive your bikes to the designated parking area at Eholt. Cycle from there through two tunnels, past the Sectionman Shed and the Fisherman Creek Falls Trail, back to Grand Forks.

16. Heritage Trail | Moderate | 19 km to Cascade Falls one way

This easy and flat rail trail is moderate due to length. First 4 kms paved. Pass through several farm gates and old bridge supports, and enjoy river, wildlife and bucolic farm views all the way. Discover beaches along the way where the trail enters the Gilpin Grasslands Provincial Park. At the east end is the roaring Cascade Falls. Be careful exploring the many bluffs. **ACCESS:** From Grand Forks downtown, take 2nd St. south over the bridge to 68th St. A few hundred metres left (north) on 68th is the kiosk and parking area on the right (south). The paved trail follows the Kettle River.

17. Great Northern (GN) Rail Trail | Easy | 1.5 km return

This delightful unpaved trail follows the old Great Northern rail bed that brought passenger service to the city early in the 20th century. Stroll past hobby farms, through a woodland and riparian habitat to a delightful sandy beach with a deep swimming hole on the Kettle River. Look for deer and birds. **ACCESS:** Park at Angus McDonald Park just off of 68th Ave., behind Extra Foods. Walk down 24th, turn onto 24A St. and you'll see the trailhead.

18. Flumeway Trail | Moderate | 2.4 km return

This historic railbed route follows a gravel road and riverside flumeway to the heritage Granby Dam Site. The flat surface of the flumeway held the wooden flume of river water that powered turbines at the smelter. Follow it for 700 m to the historic dam site with its stone pillars, concrete penstock and remains of the earthen dam. **ACCESS:** Park on Granby Rd. in the pullout across from the Rifle Range road. Walk 250 m on what's left of the CPR rail grade, then turn left down the steep rutted dirt road for another 300 m to another fork in the road. To the left is the famous Slag Beach (clothing optional in the summer). The Flumeway trail on the right takes you to the dam site.

19. Goat Mountain Trail | Hard | 2.5 km one way

The 500m ascent to Goat Mountain Summit is via a black diamond wilderness hiking trail with a hard overall rating. But spectacular views of the valley below make this trek worthwhile. The steep and unrelenting trail is marked with stone towers and there is a cairn at the summit. Look for the sign-in book, attached to a tree near the summit, to log your hike. **ACCESS:** Park at the base of the Goat Mountain FSR at 5.2km on North Fork Rd. and follow the signed trail to the North Fork rail trail. Turn right (north) and walk 50 m to the start of the trail up the mountain.

20. Fisherman Creek Mountain Bike Trails | Hard | 2 km loops

This new series of challenging loops and climbs has been built by local mountain bikers on the slopes below the rail grade. Cycle or drive up the Fisherman Creek Forest Service Rd. and then take one of three marked trails. Tree Troll is a flowy climbing trail with a few fun short downs to rest the legs. Easily rideable switchbacks let you zig zag through the terrain crossing other trails multiple times, making different loops possible. **ACCESS:** Take North Fork Rd. from Grand Forks; at 8 km marker turn onto Old North Fork Rd. for another 4 km to Fisherman Creek FSR. Park at the bottom or drive carefully 600 m up the FSR to a parking area near the trailheads.

20.1 Fisherman Creek Falls Trail | Moderate | .6 km loop

This delightful narrow trail starts from the top of the railbed's earthen trestle and falls to the creek below. Step through a huge cedar log and some wet spots to find the way to the small cistern that holds the Fisherman Creek Falls. Cross the creek and come back on the other side of the creek for a loop walk through the tall fir. Beautiful spring flowers adorn this trail.

ACCESS: Follow access instructions for Trail 20. This is a really good opportunity to park the bikes and go for a short hike.

21. Thimble Mountain Trails | Hard | 6.2 km one way

Beautiful views of the Granby and areas surrounding Grand Forks. Old school single track and some fast double track along old mining routes. The top of the open rocky knob of Thimble Mtn provides panoramic views of the rolling hills and valleys of the Granby River Valley, Grand Forks, Wilgress Lake, and mountains to the north. The trail system is located in fir and pine forest with several open grassy knobs that allow frequent views in many directions. **ACCESS:** From the Granby bridge in Grand Forks, follow Hwy 3 west for 23.3 km to the wide pullout on the right (north) side of the road. Proceed across the cattle guard to the start of the Fisherman Creek FSR. Follow this road 0.2 km to a junction; turn left and continue another 0.5 km to the lowest access point on the trail system.

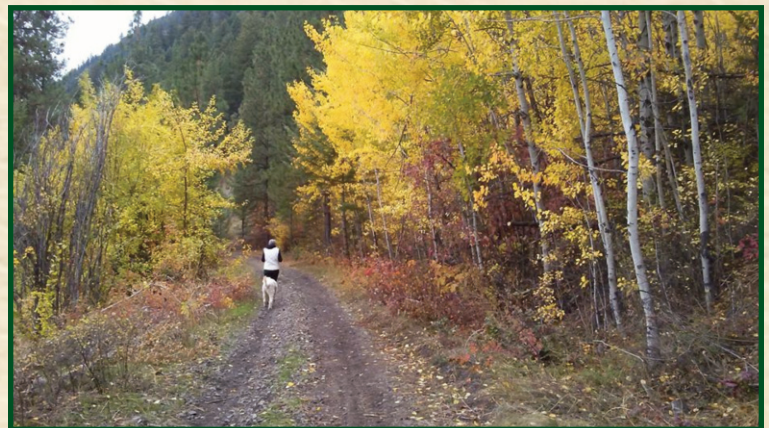
22. Bundschuh Trail | Moderate | 5 km one way

Dry grassland hills and with views of the Kettle River make this single to double track trail an interesting trek. Bathed in sunshine year-round, the trail offers a seasonal creek, mountain flowers, including cactus, as well as bighorn sheep, birds, and rattlesnakes. **ACCESS:** From the Granby Bridge in Grand Forks, travel east on Hwy 3 for 7 km. Make a cautious left turn (north) onto Gilpin Creek FSR, and continue 1 km to the Grand Forks ATV parking lot. Walk or bike up Gilpin Creek FSR to the cattle guard; the signed trail starts on the right (south) along the fence.

23. Harpold MTB Trails | Hard | 6.5 km one way

A series of mountain bike trails up the mountain. It starts with an easy trail, great for beginner mountain bikers. Most of the climb is gradual, with a few challenging punchy sections, and switchbacks ideal for beginners to learn on. Lower Harpold, one of the first to open in spring, offers a great viewpoint before beginning your fast flowing descent. The higher Ripper Trail (upper) is a 4 km black diamond single track trail that takes the adventurous up the mountain. This mountain bike trail can be used downhill only and has a hard overall physical rating with a 122 m black diamond climb.

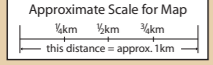
ACCESS: Follow access instructions for **Trail 8**.



Legend

- Kiosk and Parking
- Community Trails
- Community Trail paved or on a road
- The Great Trail
- Swimming
- Trail Difficulty**
- Easy
- Moderate
- Difficult

| Trails | Difficulty | Wheelchair | Walk | Hike | Road Bike | Mtn Bike | Parking |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|------|------|-----------|----------|---------|
| 1. City Park Loop | Easy | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 2. BTB Trail | Easy | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 3. Waterfront Trail | Easy | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 4. Riverside Trail | Easy | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 5. Riverside Meadows | Moderate | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 6. Damsite Trail | Easy | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 7. Observation Mtn Trails | Hard | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ |
| 8. Valley Heights | Mod/Hard | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ |
| 9. Evergreen Cemetery | Easy | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 10. Under Observation | Easy | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 11. Saddle Mtn Trails | Hard | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ |
| 12. VV&E West | Moderate | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 13. VV&E East | Moderate | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 14. Highway 3 Trail | Moderate | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 15. North Fork Trail | Moderate | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 16. Heritage Trail | Moderate | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 17. GN Rail Trail | Easy | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 18. Flumeway Trail | Hard | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 19. Goat Mtn Trail | Hard | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ |
| 20. Fisherman Creek Trail | Hard | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 21. Thimble Mtn Trails | Hard | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 22. Bundschuh Trail | Moderate | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 23. Harpol MTB Trails | Hard | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ |



to
North Fork
Inset Map



to main map

CAUTION

VENOMOUS SNAKES IN AREA

SNAKES:
The Boundary is home to many harmless snakes as well as the protected and endangered Northern Pacific Rattlesnake. Often spotted sunning on rocks and trails, snakes are shy and easy to avoid. Be alert; wear proper shoes or boots; make noise; keep dogs on leash; avoid putting hands in holes; step around logs and rocks, not over them. If you are bitten by a rattlesnake, stay calm and seek medical attention. Do NOT kill the snake. Do NOT use a tourniquet or attempt to suck out the venom. Rattlesnake bites can be treated. Learn more at www.wildsafebc.com.

