

Carol's Connect-the-Trails Ride #1

Total Distance: **33.5 miles**

Elevation Gain: **848 feet**

Degree of Difficulty Index: **848 ft / 33.5 mi = 25.31 ft/mi**

Terrain: **Flat to rolling**

Killer Hills: **None**

Geographical Region: **North Central Connecticut**

City/Town: **Farmington**

Starting Location: **Brickyard Road trail parking about 1 mile from Rt. 4 in Farmington; turn off Rt. 4 onto Brickyard Road about 2.5 miles west of Farmington center.**

Note: This is a very popular parking area for this multi-use trail and parking is apt to be somewhat limited especially on the weekends. Please plan accordingly.

Ride Description: This ride connects three different sections of the bike path that has been constructed on an old RR right-of-way in the towns of Farmington, Avon & Simsbury. Portions of the ride are alongside the Farmington River. It's a mostly flat ride with a couple modest hills.

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

Mile	Facilities - <i>Points of Interest</i>
0.0	<i>Start 1.3 mile section of the paved bike path</i>
2.0	<i>Begin tour of the Avon Old Farms school campus; lovely architecture</i>
4.1	<i>Begin another section of the rail trail</i>
5.5	<i>Cross under Rt. 44 on the bike path via a tunnel</i>
5.6	<i>Avon office park (town offices)</i>
6.4	<i>Continue on bike path through Sperry Park</i>
9.4	<i>Small park with Connecticut's largest sycamore tree; great spot for a snack break</i>
11.4	<i>Footbridge over the Farmington River (views)</i>
11.5	<i>Begin more travel over the bike path</i>
19.2	<i>International Skating Center of Connecticut; snack bar; bathrooms; watch the skaters</i>
19.8	Convenience store on right
19.9	<i>More bike path riding (reverse direction from earlier portion of the ride)</i>
22.8	<i>Begin entry to Stratton Brook State Park on crushed stone bike path</i>
23.8	<i>Stratton Brook State Park; swimming, water, bathrooms...all seasonal; lunch/snack break</i>
28.1	Various services along Rt. 44
30.1	<i>Views of the Avon Country Club's golf course</i>
30.9	<i>Bike path back to the starting point</i>

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