



Photo courtesy of Craig Wyant

Marcia H. Cloninger Rail Trail

Lincolnton, NC

The Marcia H. Cloninger Rail-Trail, known locally as the Lincolnton Rail-Trail, offers a chance to search the heart of this small Southern town, highlighted by a stately courthouse, model Main Street, thriving arts scene, and nearby lakes and mountains. Once an eyesore covered in kudzu and debris, the former Norfolk Southern Railroad corridor is now the pride and joy of “Lovable Lincolnton”. From the old railroad depot at Pine and North Poplar streets, two blocks north of Main, the trail meanders through town.

Marcia H. Cloninger was influential in the early Lincolnton Rail to Trail movement. Mrs. Cloninger served on the Lincolnton City Council and worked tirelessly to make the rail trail a reality. In 1999, it was recommended that the rail trail officially be named the Marcia H. Cloninger Rail Trail.

The smooth, paved trail is especially popular with walkers, joggers and parents pushing baby strollers. Benches line the route, inviting you to pause and take in this enchanting town and trail.





GPS Coordinates: W 81^15'20.16"

Directions and Parking

From Highway 321 – Take East Main Street (Highway 27/150) and head west into Downtown Lincolnton. Turn left onto S. Poplar Street. Turn right onto Congress Street. Trailhead parking is located on the left at the intersection of Congress Street and Government Street.

Trail Length

1.1 miles

The trail is ADA compliant.



MARCIA H. CLONINGER RAIL-TRAIL

LINCOLNTON, NC

Points of Interest

Downtown Lincoln
Southern Charm Winery
McBee Street Park
Betty Ross Park
Farmers Market

Surface Type

Asphalt; ADA compliant.

Permissible Activities

Walking
Running
Paved Surface Biking

Level of Difficulty

Easy walk, level

Pet Policy

Dogs on leash
Pet waste station available

Restroom facilities availability

Yes, at nearby Betty Ross Park located at 800 Madison Street

Fees and hours

No fees
Hours: 24 hours per day availability

