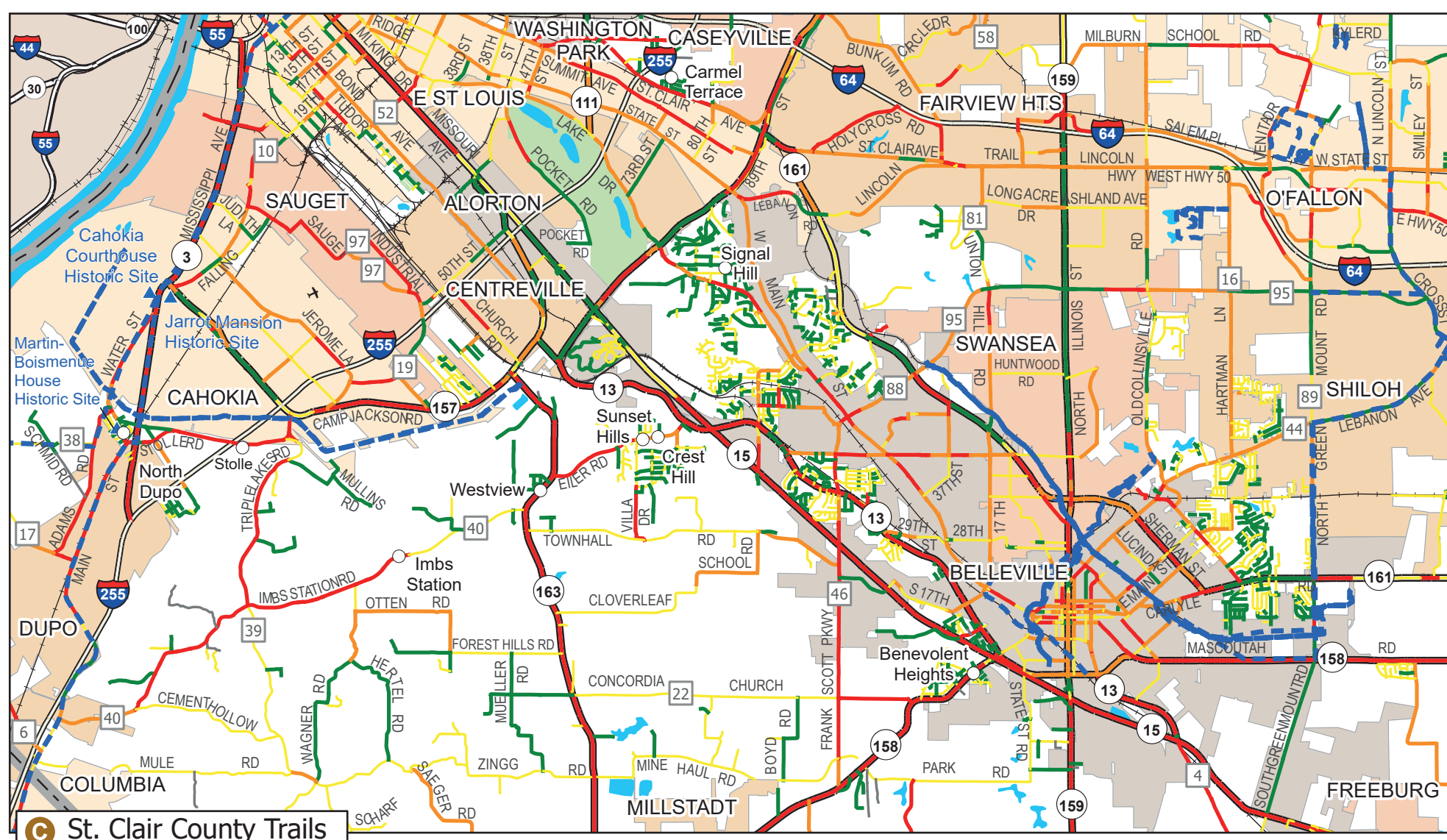
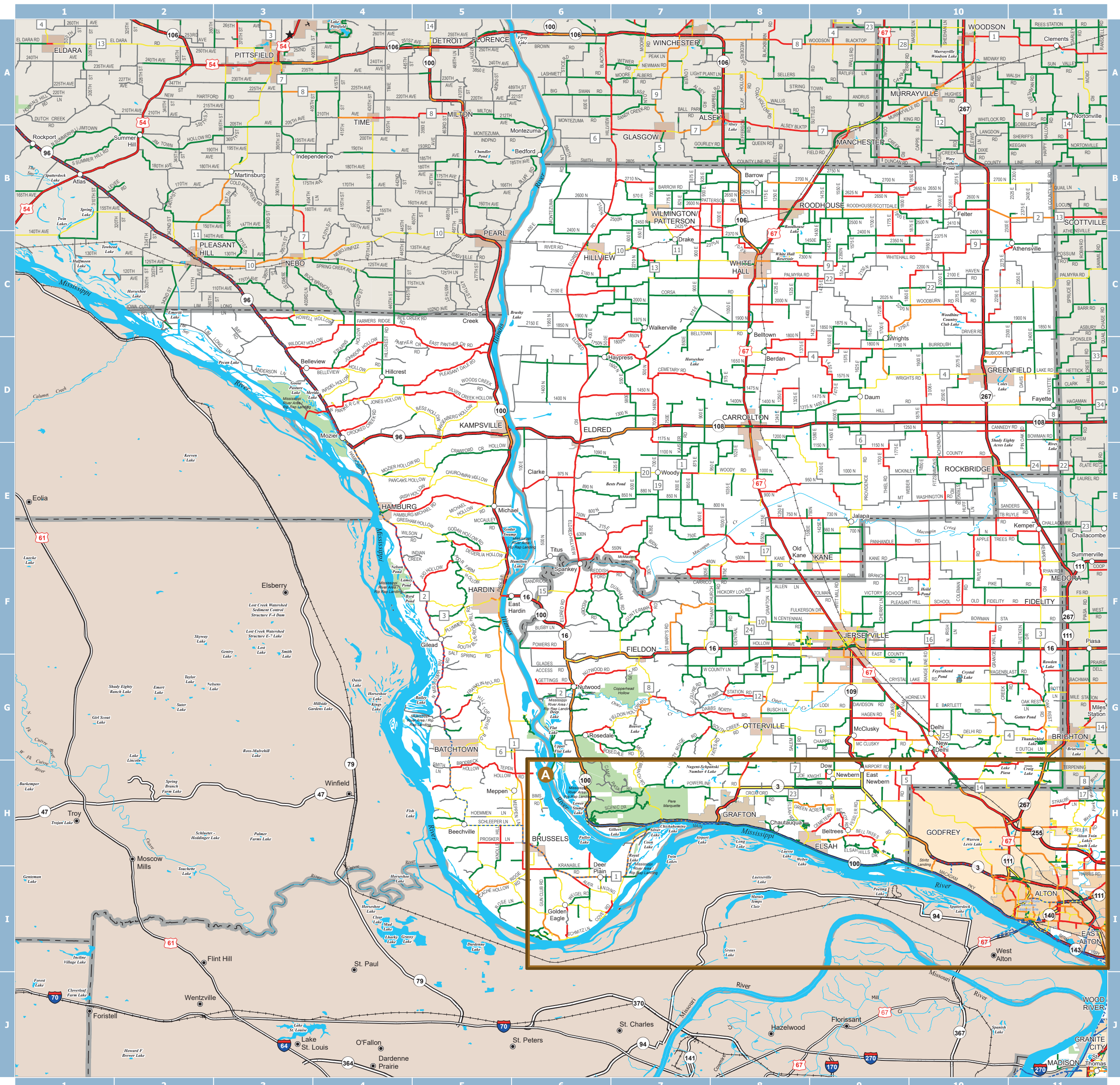




Cultural /Museums

Cahokia Mounds World Heritage State Historic Site, 30 Ramey St., Collinsville. 618/346-5160

Only prehistoric Native American city north of Mexico.

Confederate Monument, Confederate Cemetery, Ruzier Street, Alton. (800) ALTON-IL

Monument honors the 1,343 Confederate prisoners who died of smallpox.

Confederate Prison, William Street, Alton. (800) ALTON-IL
Housed Confederate prisoners during the Civil War.

Fort de Chartres State Historic Site, 1260 State Route 155, Prairie du Rocher.

618-284-7230
French stone fort built in 1753. Contains the oldest building still standing in Illinois.

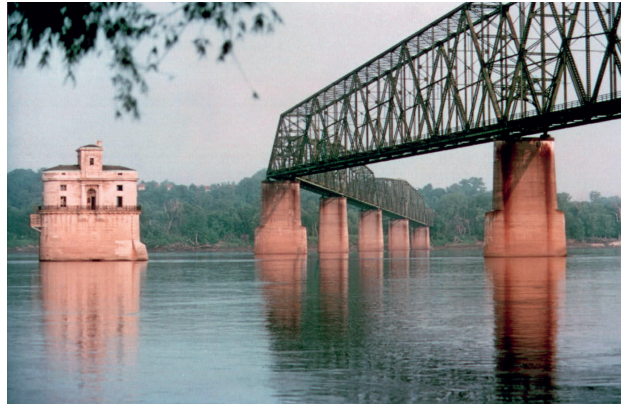
Fort Kaskaskia State Historic Site, 4372 Park Rd. Ellis Grove, IL 62241. 618/859-3741

Built to protect Kaskaskia from the British during the American Revolution.

The old Chain of Rocks Bridge (shown in the photo) spans the Mississippi River on the north edge of St. Louis, Missouri. The eastern end of the bridge is on Chouteau Island, while the western end is on the Missouri shoreline. Its most notable feature is a 22-degree bend occurring at the middle of the crossing.

Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, 1 Lewis & Clark Tr. Hartford, IL. 618/251-5811

Monument on the Mississippi commemorating the starting point of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark's historic journey up the Missouri River to the Pacific Coast.



Madison County Historical Museum, 715 North Main St. Edwardsville, IL 62025. 618/656-7562

Area history from Native American artifact to modern day.

Museum of History and Art, 2809 College Ave., Alton. 618/462-2763
Local and Civil War history.

Recreational and Entertainment

Alton Belle Riverboat Casino, 1 Piasa St., Alton, IL 62002. 800/711-GAME
Casino Queen, 200 S. Front St., East St. Louis, IL 62201. 800/777-0777

Gateway International Raceway, 700 Raceway Blvd. P.O. Box 200 Madison, IL 62060. 888/35-SPEED

Faimont Park Racetrack, Faimont. 618/345-4300 Horsereasing year-round, with restaurants on-site.

Illinois Caverns State Natural Area, 618-458-6699 Explore Mammoth Cave and enjoy its exotic natural formations.

Welcome to Southwestern Illinois!

This map is one of nine bicycle maps for the State of Illinois. It covers a region from Carlyle Lake, Illinois' largest inland lake west to East St. Louis and French Illinois and northwest to Pere Marquette State Park and Cahoun County where the Illinois River flows into the Mississippi. Counties covered are Bond, Cahoun, Clinton, Green, Jersey, Madison, Marion, Monroe, Randolph, St. Clair and Washington, as well as portions of adjacent counties. We hope you will find it helpful in planning your bicycle trip in or through southwestern Illinois. While you are cycling, we invite you to stop and take in many of the scenic and historic wonders of this region.

The Terrain

The Mississippi River has helped shape this region. Around the St. Louis area and south, the Illinois side of the river is a broad flood plain with a ridge of bluffs a few miles away. The floodplain is partly cultivated, with important sections protected as wetlands and wildlife refuges. Many of these protected areas are in Cahoun County. Farther south and land is hillier. At Alton, the bluffs about the Mississippi. Scenic limestone cliffs follow the river west to Grafton where the Illinois River flows into the Mississippi. Pristine Cahoun County is hilly, dominated by a ridge between the rivers. Only one bridge crosses into Cahoun County at Hardin: four ferries-two across the Illinois and two across the Mississippi into Missouri-cross the rivers in other locations. Further east, the land is level to gently rolling terrain with more farmland. Along the bluffs and cliffs are hollows areas where the bluffs fold inward to surround a narrow valley on three sides. Some of these hollows have small villages, such as the picturesque town of Elash off Illinois 100 between Alton and Pere Marquette State Park. Waterfalls are a rarity in a generally flat state like Illinois, but these bluffs offer the best chance to see one, such as the one near Dupu in Southwestern St. Clair County.

Lakes, Rivers and Streams

The Mississippi River is the dominant body of water in this region. It marks the western boundary of Region 8, except in one location: at Kaskaskia, the Illinois state line follows an older bed of the river. Thus, Kaskaskia Island, jutting westward into Missouri, is the only accessible part of Illinois west of the Mississippi. The next best thing to a beach is found scattered in spots along the Mississippi, especially in southern Cahoun County where public access is provided. These roads to the river at National Wildlife Refuge in Cahoun County provide access to these sandy areas. The roads are dirt and sand, so exercise caution or take a mountain bike. Please respect private property rights. The other major river in the area is the Illinois River flowing south from northeastern Illinois. Like the Mississippi, the Illinois is surrounded by scenic bluffs and hills. Waterfowl, eagles in winter, and other wildlife are abundant here (see next section). The Illinois River is found in the northwestern portion of this region.

The largest lake entirely within Illinois Carlyle Lake, located in the eastern portion of this region. Boating of all types, swimming on a man-made beach, bird watching at the wildlife management area, and, of course, fishing are popular activities at Carlyle Lake.

Plant and Animals

Like much of Illinois, this area was covered by a vast prairie, broken by wooded areas near rivers, streams, and more hilly areas. Most of the prairie-mainly in the eastern portion of Region 8-was been converted to farmland. Wooded areas are predominantly oak-hickory in the upland, with cottonwood, maple and willow in the bottomlands. Cahoun and Jersey counties, bordering the Illinois and Mississippi rivers, are home to much wildlife. A number of conservation areas, wildlife management areas, and Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge exist in this area. Deer, waterfowl, birds of prey such as osprey and hawk species, and an abundance of other animals live in or visit these protected lands. In the winter months, a number of bald eagles roost in the wooded bluffs along both rivers. Please respect these lands so that they remain a good home for animals.

Important Addresses and Phone Numbers Emergencies - Dial 911

Amtrak

1-800-USA-RAIL www.amtrak.com

Bike Advocacy Organizations

National Center for Bicycling & Walking (NCBW) NCBW is a resident program at Project for Public Spaces, Inc. NCBW was established in 1977, as the Bicycle Federation of America, Inc. NCBW's mission is to create bicycle-friendly and walkable communities. www.bikeadv.org
e-mail: info@bikeadv.org

Active Transportation Alliance, 35 E. Wacker Dr., Suite 1782, Chicago, IL 60601. 312-427-3125. The mission of Active Transportation Alliance is to advocate for walking, bicycling, and public transit to create healthy, sustainable and equitable communities. www.activetrans.org

League of America Bicyclists, 1612 K Street NW, Suite 1102, Washington, DC 20006. 202-822-1333. Mission: To lead the movement to create a Bicycle Friendly America for everyone. As leaders, our commitment is to listen and learn, define standards and share best practices to engage diverse communities and build a powerful, unified voice for change. www.bikeusa.org

Ride Illinois, 8151 Leicester Rd #314, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007. 630-216-9282. The statewide bike advocacy organization works for bike-friendly roads and trails, for favorable legislation, and to educate cyclists and motorists. www.rideillinois.org

Bus Service

Greyhound, 800-231-2222

www.greyhound.com

Campgrounds, Public

Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) One Natural Resource Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271. 217-782-6302

www.dnr.illinois.gov
e-mail: dnr.parksadmin@illinois.gov

Department of Natural Resources (State Parks and Recreation Areas) - Office of Land Management

IDNR, One Natural Resource Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271. 217-782-6752. www.dnr.illinois.gov
e-mail: dnr.parksadmin@illinois.gov

Hiking Opportunities

IDNR, One Natural Resource Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271. 217-782-6302

www.dnr.illinois.gov
e-mail: dnr.parksadmin@illinois.gov

Historic Agencies / Organizations - Preservation Services

IDNR, #1 Old State Capital Plaza, Springfield, IL 62702-1507. 217-782-4836 www.dnr.illinois.gov
e-mail: dnr.parksadmin@illinois.gov

Road Conditions (Winter) / Road Construction (Spring / Summer / Fall)

1-800-452-4368

www.aktifordillinois.com

Secretary of State (Bicycle Education / Safety)

Illinois Secretary of State, Driver Services Department, Traffic Safety Division, 2701 S. Dirksen Pkwy., Springfield, IL 62723. 217-782-6212

www.esbdrivillinois.com

State Agencies

IDNR, Office of Public Services, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271. 217-782-6302 www2.illinois.gov/dnr

Illinois Department of Transportation, 2300 S. Dirksen Pkwy. Springfield, IL 62764. 217-782-7820

<http://idot.illinois.gov>

Illinois Historic Preservation Office, #1 Old State Capital Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701-1507. 217-782-4836 www2.illinois.gov/dnr/historic

Illinois State Police, 801 South Seventh Street, P.O. Box 19461, Springfield, IL 62794-9461 <http://isp.illinois.gov>

Illinois Secretary of State, Driver Services Department, Traffic Safety Division, 2701 S. Dirksen Pkwy Springfield, IL 62723. 217-782-6212 www.esbdrivillinois.com

State Police

District 11 ----Collinsville (Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair): 1100 Eastport Plaza Dr., Collinsville, IL 62234-6116. 618-346-3990

District 12-Effingham (Clark, Clay, Crawford, Cumberland, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, and Richland): 401 Industrial Ave., Suite A Effingham, IL 62401-2835. 217-347-2711

District 13-DuQuoin (Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Perry, Randolph, Washington, and Williamson): 1391 S. Washington St., DuQuoin, IL 62832. 618-542-2171

District 18-Litchfield (Cahoun, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, and Montgomery): 102 Illinois Route 16, Litchfield, IL 62556-1574. 217-324-4900

Tourism Information

Illinois Tourism Bureau, 800-2-CONNECT, TTY: 800-406-6418. www.enjoyillinois.com

General information, highway maps, and trip planning assistance. www.enjoyillinois.com

Alton Regional Convention & Visitors Bureau, 200 Piasa St., Alton, IL 62002. 618-ALTON-IL. www.visitalton.com

Madison County Transit, I Transit Way, P.O. Box 7500, Granite City, IL 62040. 618-931-RIDE. www.mct.org

Saint Clair County Transit, 1004 S. Lincoln Ave. Suite 1, O'Fallon, IL 62269. 618-628-8090. www.sccctd.org

St. Louis Convention and Visitor's Commission, 701 Convention Plaza, Suite 300, St. Louis, MO 63102. 800-325-7962. www.explorestouis.com/cvc/index.asp

The Tourism Bureau ILLINOISouth, 4387 N. Illinois St., Suite 200, Swansea, IL 62226. 800-442-1488. www.thetourismbureau.org

Great Rivers County Regional Tourism Development Office, 581 S. Deere Rd., Macomb, IL 61455. 309-837-7460 or 877-477-7007. www.greatriverscountry.info

Metro East Park and Recreation District, 104 United Drive, Collinsville, IL 62234. 618-346-4905. www.metroil.org

Helmets...
one piece of equipment you can live with.

Be Prepared

Studies have shown that a cyclist not wearing a helmet is between two and three times more likely to suffer a head injury in a crash than one who is wearing a helmet. The League of American Cyclists recommends that cyclists frequently check their helmet for wear and damage and replace the helmets every few years and/or in the event of a crash, in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.

Buy the Right Helmet

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) recommends that you only purchase helmets that have been manufactured in accordance with recognized safety standard, ASTM. Look for a sticker indicating this safety standard on the inside of the helmet.

Please...

...to prevent injuries, wear a helmet. You can live with it.

