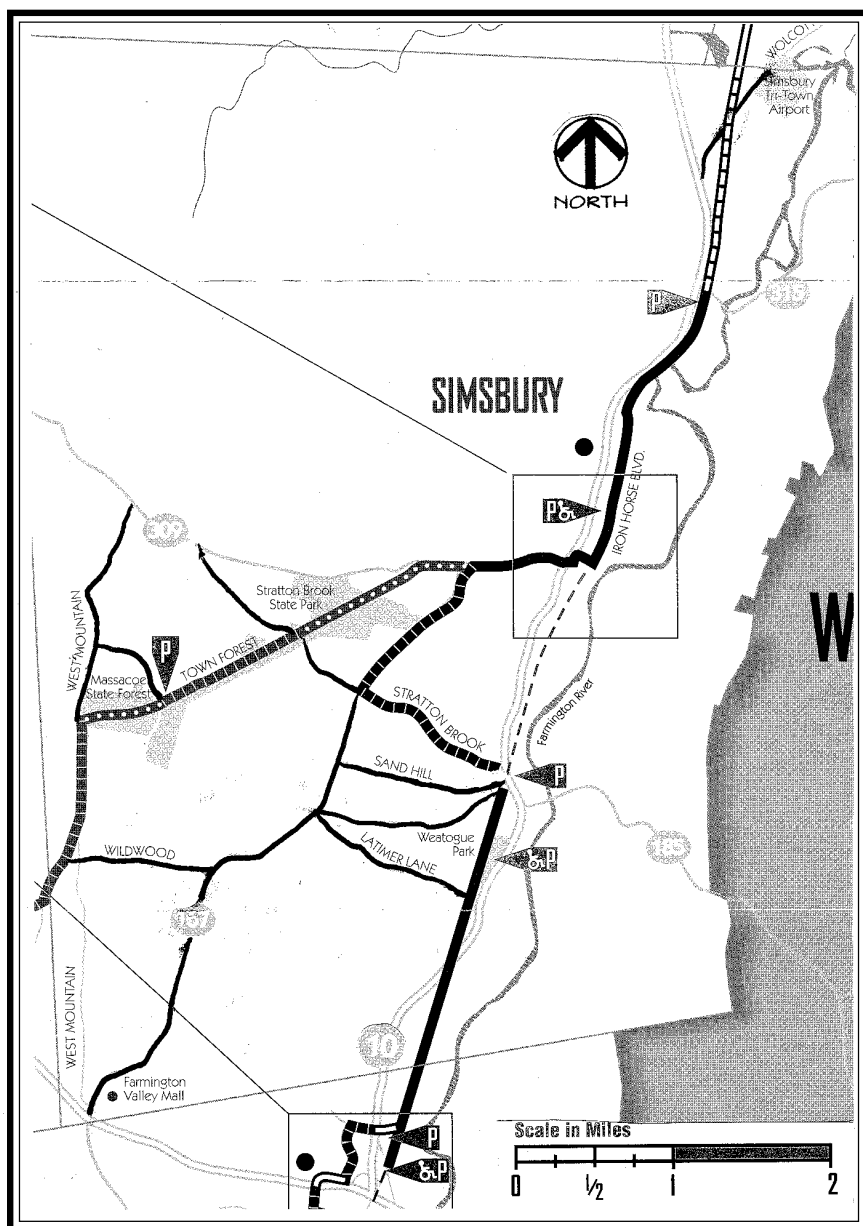


THE FARMINGTON VALLEY GREENWAY



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An exciting new addition to Simsbury and its environs, this paved, 25-mile trail spans five towns and follows the old right-of-way of the Farmington Canal Railroad (which replaced the historic Farmington Canal in 1848). Walkers, joggers, bikers, and skaters alike will find the trail ideal for their purposes, as will those who require wheelchair access.

The Simsbury portion of the Greenway offers a wealth of lovely spots. At the Avon town line, behind the Riverdale Farms Mall, the trail skirts the Nod Brook Wildlife area. Here visitors will find both ponds and the Farmington River. Above to the east is a fine view of Talcott Mountain. A short side trip into Canal Place reveals a restored section of the original canal.

In downtown Simsbury, the Greenway merges with Iron Horse Boulevard. At the southern end, across from Drake Hill, is a short, paved walkway that leads to a one-lane bridge built in 1892. Listed on the National Historic Register, the bridge provides a magnificent view of the Farmington River. As the trail moves north it passes the river flood-plain and the entrances to the River Walk Trail. In the spring and summer wildflowers abound, and it is not unusual to see beaver, deer, mallard ducks, and ring-necked pheasants. Several benches line this section, so visitors can take in the sights at their leisure. Concluding this part of the trail is a short side trail that leads to State Wildlife land; here you may see ducks and geese nesting in the spring.

The Greenway offers many points of access with ample parking along the trail, several with wheelchair access.

