



THE RAIL-TO-TRAIL EFFORT

This trail is built within the RFTA Railroad Corridor on the former Aspen Branch of the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad (D&RGW), although Train operations along this line ceased in phases between the 1960s and the mid-1990s. The corridor is being “railbanked” for future transportation uses.

In 1997, the rail corridor and track were purchased using a combination of funding from local governments, Great Outdoors Colorado, the Colorado Department of Transportation, and Pitkin County Open Space and Trails. This purchase presented an opportunity to explore transportation alternatives to State Highway 82 congestion and the challenge of creating recreation connectivity in the Roaring Fork Valley.

In 2001, RFTA was formed as a regional transportation authority creating a dedicated funding source for transit and trails. Following its completion in 2008, RFTA now manages and maintains the Rio Grande Trail with its partner agencies in the Roaring Fork Valley.

WHAT TO EXPECT

The Rio Grande Trail treadway is asphalt surfaced with some sections of concrete and compacted gravel. The pavement is 8 to 10 feet wide with soft surface shoulders of 2 to 6 feet. The trail is open to those on foot, those on horseback, and those using human-powered equipment such as bicycles, in-line skates and skateboards. Wheelchairs, both motorized and non-motorized, are permitted. Other Power Driven Mobility Devices (OPDMDs) are permitted with restrictions. Call **970.384.4975** for more information, or visit **RFTA.com**.

Picnic tables and benches are provided at various locations, as are trash cans, recycle bins and dog waste stations. There is only one potable water source on the trail at the Basalt trailhead next to the Basalt High School, plan to bring your own water as there is no other water source along the length of the trail. Vault toilets are installed at the vicinity of Cattle Creek and Catherine Store Bridge. A number of spur trails lead to services in the towns adjacent to the Rio Grande Trail corridor.

GOLDEN RULES OF TRAIL ETIQUETTE

RESPECT CLOSURES & WILDLIFE: Maintain your distance to wildlife and respect trail closures during all times of the year.

RESPECT TRAILS CREW: Slow down around maintenance vehicles and crew. Please announce your approach.

HORSES: Everyone yields to horses. Stop, step off the trail and talk to the rider. They will tell you when it is safe to pass.

CYCLISTS: Ride at a safe speed, single file. Do not exceed 20 mph. Slow and announce yourself before passing. Ring your bell and inform pedestrians, “on your left.”

PEDESTRIANS: Be alert. Keep headphones turned down so you can hear others.

DOG WALKERS: Leash your pet and maintain control. You must carry a waste bag and put poop in a proper receptacle.

EVERYONE: Keep to the right of the trail except to pass. If you must stop, step off the trail. Do not block the trail.

SHARE AND BE AWARE. SAFETY IS FOR EVERYONE.

During the winter months, the trail is plowed when snowfall exceeds 3” between Glenwood Springs and Main Street, Carbondale. Other sections may be groomed for cross-country skiing or remain unmaintained. Call **970.384.4975** for the current trail conditions, or go to **RioGrandeTrail.com** or **RFTA.com**. For Nordic grooming reports between Aspen and Basalt, call **970.925.2145** or visit **aspennordic.com**.

E-BIKES

Class I and Class II E-Bikes are allowed on the Rio Grande Trail between Two Rivers Park in Glenwood Springs and the Pitkin County line at Emma Road in Basalt. Only Class 1 E-Bikes are allowed from Emma Road to Aspen.



GRAZING GOATS

As part of RFTA’s Integrated Weed Management Plan, RFTA hires a herd of over 200 goats to help with vegetation management and land restoration work along the Trail and within the old rail corridor. RFTA is doing our part to shift the paradigm away from spraying toxic and harmful herbicides. As an alternative to chemicals and to be much more accountable, safe, and sustainable; RFTA is utilizing goats to responsibly graze our land, recycle nutrients, and build soil health.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE



THE ROARING FORK TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY manages the Rio Grande Trail from 23rd Street in Glenwood Springs to the Pitkin County line at Emma Road in Basalt. For inquiries within that portion of the trail please contact **970.384.4975** or **RFTA.com**.



GLENWOOD SPRINGS manages the Rio Grande Trail from Two Rivers Park to 23rd Street in Glenwood Springs. For inquiries within that portion of the trail please contact **970.384.6300** or **ci.glenwood-springs.co.us**.



PITKIN COUNTY OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS manages the Rio Grande Trail from Emma Road in Basalt to Aspen. For inquiries within that portion of the trail please contact: **970.920.5232** or **pitkincounty.com**.

RESOURCES

- City of Aspen Parks, Open Space & Trails cityofaspen.com
- Crown Mountain Park & Recreation crownmtn.org
- Bureau of Land Management blm.gov/colorado
- Glenwood Springs Parks & Recreation glenwoodrec.com
- Google Maps: Search & view the trail google.com/maps
- Pitkin County Outside pitkinoutside.org
- Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association (RFMBA) rfmba.org
- WE-cycle Bike Share we-cycle.org
- White River National Forest Aspen - Sopris Ranger District fs.usda.gov/main/whiteriver

RIO GRANDE TRAIL MAP

GLENWOOD SPRINGS TO ASPEN
42 Miles of Continuous Multi-Use Trail

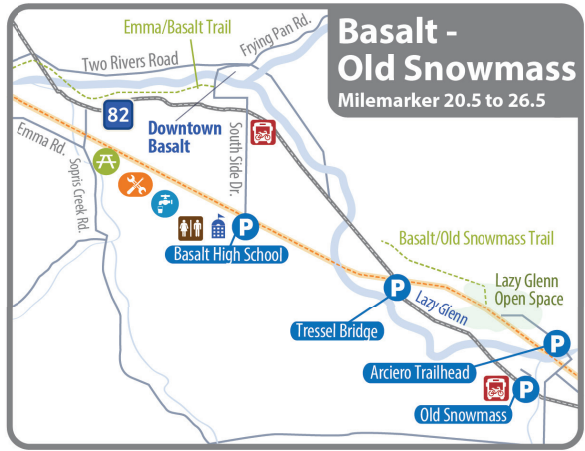
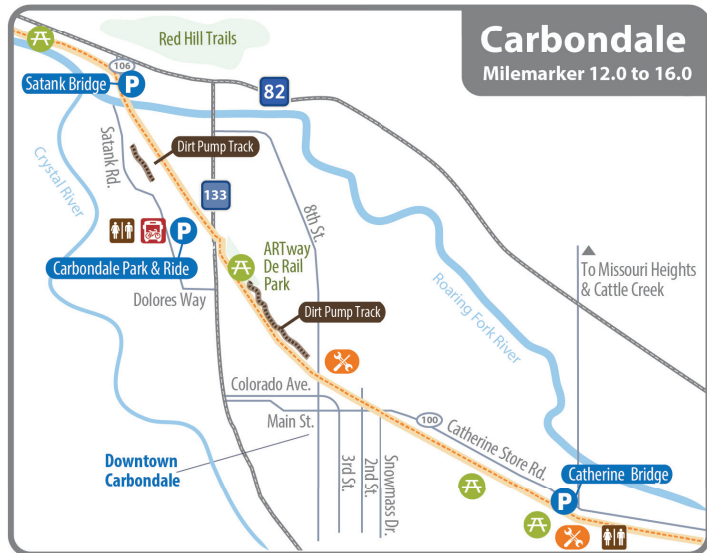
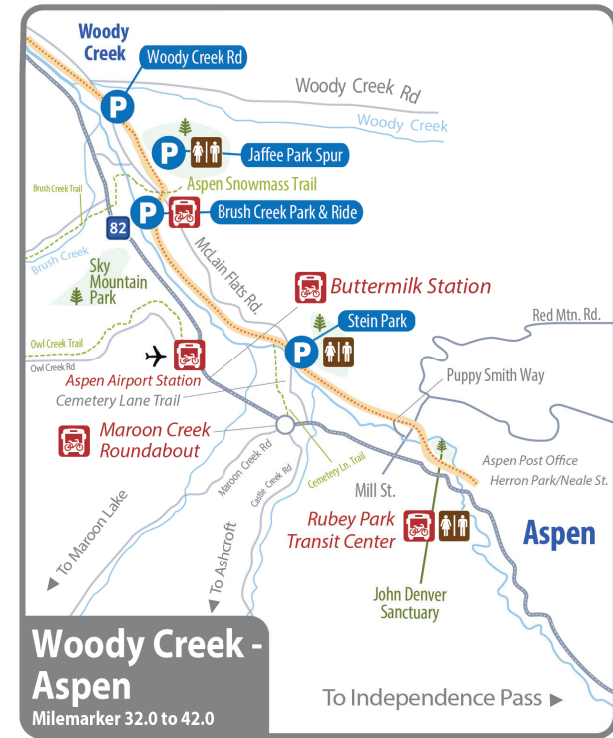
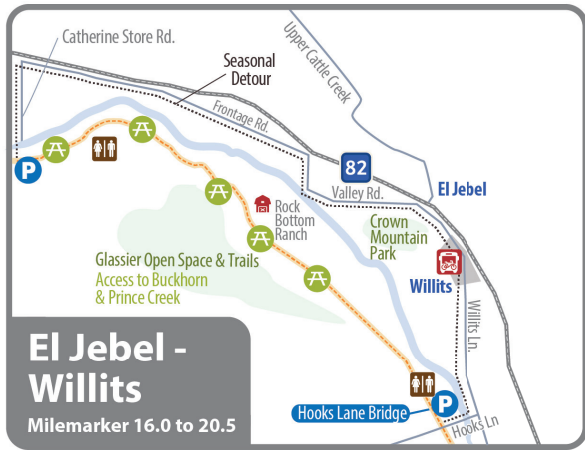
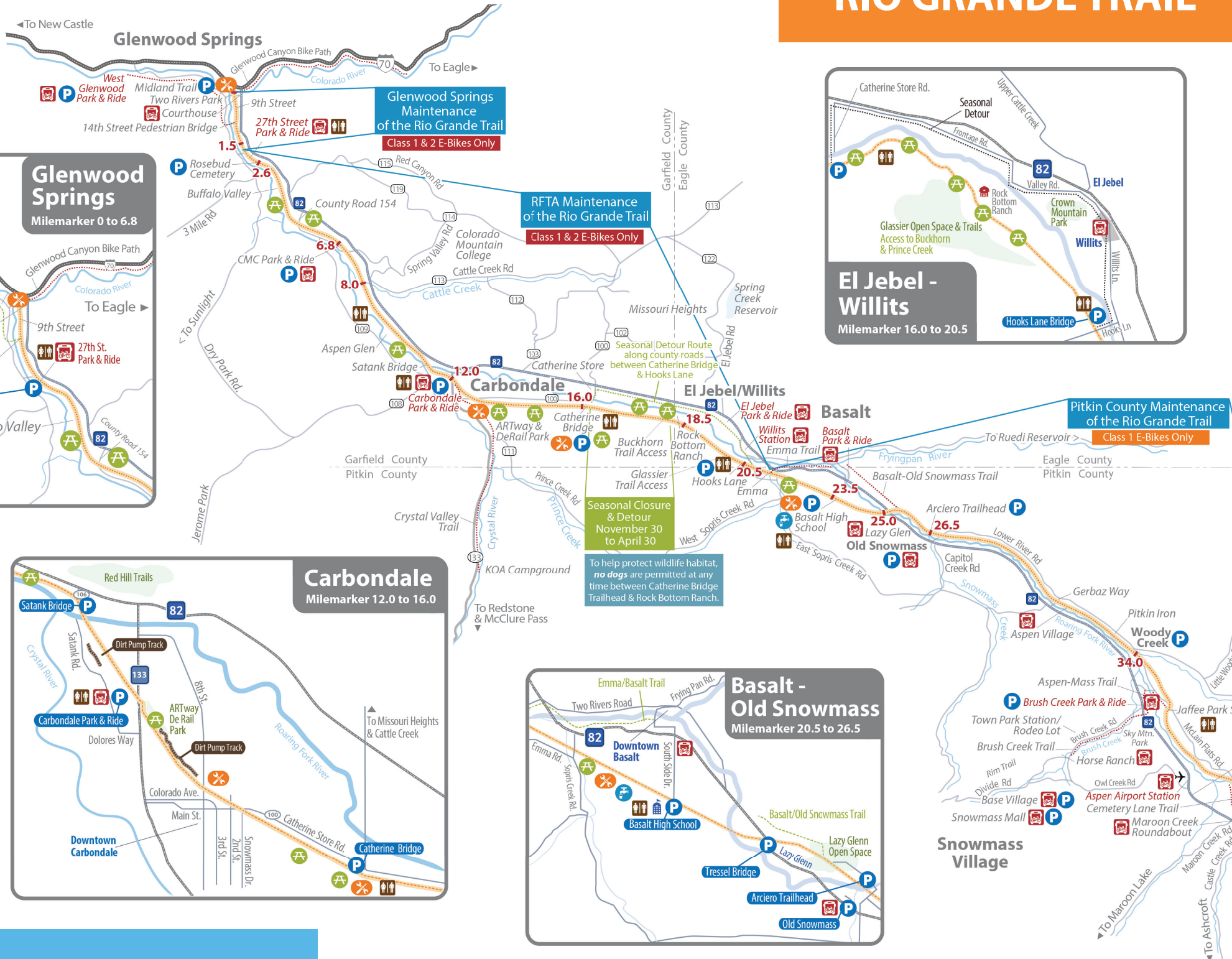


RioGrandeTrail.com



RIO GRANDE TRAIL

ASPEN ↔ GLENWOOD SPRINGS
42 Miles of Continuous Multi-use Trail



Legend

- Rio Grande Trail
- 0.0 - Mile Markers (approximate)
- P - Parking
- Bus icon - Bike Bus Stops
- Wrench icon - Fix-it Bike Repair Station
- Tree icon - Rest Area
- Restroom icon - Restrooms
- Water tap icon - Potable Water (At Basalt High School only)
- 100 - State Highway
- 000 - County Road



The Roaring Fork Valley's Bikeshare. Free 30-minute rides. Serving Aspen, Snowmass Village, Basalt, Willits, El Jebel, and Carbondale with a fast, flexible, reliable transportation option.

we-cycle.org