

Hike the 606 Trail in Chicago

Please join the Prairie Club Hikers for a wonderful event on the 606 Trail in Chicago; the 606 trail uses a converted elevated train track system also called the Bloomington Trail. You will be hiking 5 miles RT (or less if you wish) on a paved and landscaped trail. This trail is one-way in and one-way out with one bench, and is dog friendly. Entrance to the trail is at Walsh Park, Ashland and Bloomingdale. We will meet there.

The 606 Trail opened in June 2015 on abandoned railroad lines on Chicago's northwest side and has become an extremely popular destination for hikers and bikers. This easy hike is a total of 5.5 miles round trip and should take about 2 to 2 ½ hours. The hike is a straight in-and-out, so hikers can turn around at any point. An optional lunch will follow at one of the many restaurants near the finish if hikers want to eat afterwards. This might be a good place to take any friends and family visiting from out-of-town for a unique view of Chicago. We will meet at 11 AM at the eastern access point Walsh Park 1722 N Ashland Ave, Chicago IL. (between Ashland and Marshfield). Please bring plenty of water, comfortable shoes and dress in layers for the weather. Dogs are welcome on a leash.

Directions: Take I90/94 (east from northwest suburbs, west from downtown Chicago) and exit at North Avenue west. The first light is Ashland. The entrance to the trail is at Walsh Park which is between Ashland and Marshfield, two blocks north of North Avenue on the west side of Ashland. Best to park on either Marshfield or Paulina both one-way streets just west of Ashland. It's an easy walk to the park from there. You will see what looks like an overhead train track. This is the 606. There is no dedicated parking facility for the 606 Trail, but there is metered and street parking in the neighborhoods surrounding the trail (some areas may require resident permits to park), The entrance to the 606 Trail is to north of the trail off Marshfield. This is where we will meet. Easiest transit access is via the CTA Blue Line – visitors will be closest to access points at either the Western or Damen stops.

If you have questions, please contact Art Anderson 269-586-4315 arthurhanderson@aol.com for more information.