

Go Gaga for Greenways!

Start/End: Valmont City Park, Valmont and Airport Road
Distance: 10 miles or 5 miles
Time: ~3.5 hours for long loop; 1.5 hours for short loop

Overview:

Follow Boulder's beautiful [greenways](#), walking alongside water and through north Boulder neighborhoods on this adventure, which can be completed in two ways: follow the large loop (dark blue) for a 10-mile walk or the small loop (light blue) for a 5-mile walk. Start both loops at Valmont City Park (or anywhere along the route you like!).

Directions:

Wonderland Creek Greenway + Fourmile Creek Greenway

Begin at Valmont City Park, south of Valmont Road at Airport Road. From the parking lot, head west on the dirt path that connects with the paved Wonderland Creek Path and the Wonderland Creek Greenway. Turn right and follow the paved path through the Valmont underpass, alongside the water. Follow the Wonderland Creek Path northwest along the eastern edge of Kings Ridge Park. Cross Kings Ridge Boulevard to stay on the path, walking through a lovely tree tunnel with Wonderland Creek on the left and a neighborhood on the right.



At 47th Street, cross at the crosswalk and turn right onto the Foothills multi-use path. Follow the path around to the left, walking under Foothills Parkway and under the train tracks on the other side. Keep walking alongside Wonderland Creek on the paved path, turning northwest away from Howard Hueston Park to cross the bridge. At Iris Avenue, cross the street and turn left,



walking west on the wide path. Follow the path to the right and down a ramp to the Diagonal Highway underpass. Continue walking northwest alongside the water.

Stay to the left when the path forks on the north side of the Kalmia Avenue underpass, following the Wonderland Creek Path north to the 28th Street underpass. On the west side of 28th Street, walk toward Winding Trail Drive.

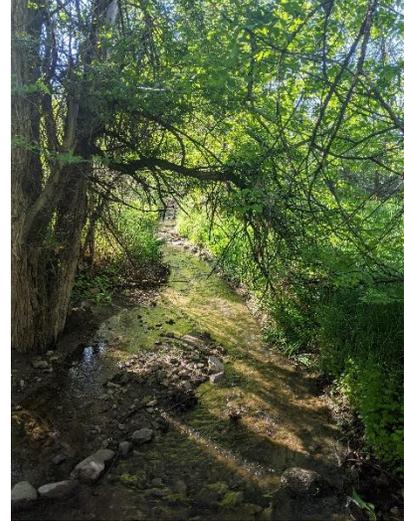
This is your decision point:

If you want to walk the short, 5-mile, loop, turn left at the next opportunity, turning south on the path to Winding Trail Place.

Follow the light blue line on the map to make your way south to the Elmer's Two Mile Creek Greenway Path, which connects with the Goose Creek Greenway Path. The Goose Creek Path will take you directly back east to the Wonderland Creek Path at Valmont City Park. See the **Goose Creek Greenway** section below for more detail.

To continue the 10-mile loop, cross Winding Trail Drive and stay on the Wonderland Creek Path, turning sharply right across the creek to walk toward the Boulder Elks Lodge and Elks Park.

Turn left onto the Four Mile Creek Path at Elks Park, following the water to 26th Street. Enjoy the cool shade here. Cross 26th Street and continue walking west on Agate Road (look for the cute chicken mailbox!). Follow Agate Road around to where it merges with Emerald Road and turn right onto Emerald. Where Emerald merges with Garnet Lane, look for the footpath to the left – and notice the “Wishing Tree” there. Turn left onto that path, walking alongside the ditch south to Poplar Avenue.



Turn right onto Poplar Avenue and right again at 19th Street. Cross the street at the crosswalk and walk north to Quince. Look for the bright blue and green mural on the fence at 19th and Quince.



Turn left onto Quince. Walk west to 17th Street and turn right onto the multi-use path connection to Redwood Avenue. Turn left onto Redwood. Walk west to Riverside Avenue and turn right, then take the Broadway underpass to Wonderland Lake.

Follow the Wonderland Lake Trail around the north side of the lake, following the connection onto Utica Court and back to the open space trail northwest of the lake. Take the dirt trail south along the west side of the lake to Poplar Avenue.

Canyon Creek Greenway

Cross Poplar Avenue and follow the paved trail southeast to Wonderland Hill Avenue. Turn right at Wonderland Hill Avenue (look for the beautiful mural of wildflowers on a fence across the street!), walk to Linden Avenue and cross at the crosswalk. Take the 4th Street path through a forested area between houses and walk on the east side of 4th Street to Iris Avenue. Turn left onto Iris. At 9th Street, turn left to walk around the north side of Foothills Elementary School, taking the bridge over the ditch.

Cross Broadway at the pedestrian signal and walk one block south to Hawthorn Avenue. Turn left onto Hawthorn. Turn right at 15th Street and walk onto the path at the end of the street, then turn left toward Growing Gardens and the Farmers Ditch. Turn right onto the path alongside the gardens on the left and the ditch on the right. At the southern edge of Growing



Gardens, turn left to follow the path in front of the gardens. Look for the Little Free Library with a stenciled cat (by Boulder street artist SMiLE) on the side.

At the east edge of the gardens, walk straight onto Forest Avenue. Turn right at 19th Street and cross at the signal at Floral Drive. Walk southeast on Floral Drive to the end, turn right, then turn left onto Edgewood Drive. Cross Edgewood at the crosswalk and walk onto the Goose Creek Greenway Path.

Goose Creek Greenway

This is the home stretch! Follow the Goose Creek Greenway Path southeast alongside the water. Be aware of bicyclists and other path users, walking on the far right side of the path, no more than two people abreast. The path travels under Folsom Street and meets up with the Elmer's Two Mile Greenway Path. This is a nice place to stop, sit on the rocks and put your feet in the water for a break, if desired.

The path continues under 28th Street and 30th Street. Notice the public art in this area: painted trout on the walls near Junction Place, sculptures with a railroad motif, and street art in the underpass under the railroad tracks further east. Stay on the path alongside Goose Creek behind Boulder Junction and the commercial/industrial area accessed by Wilderness Place.



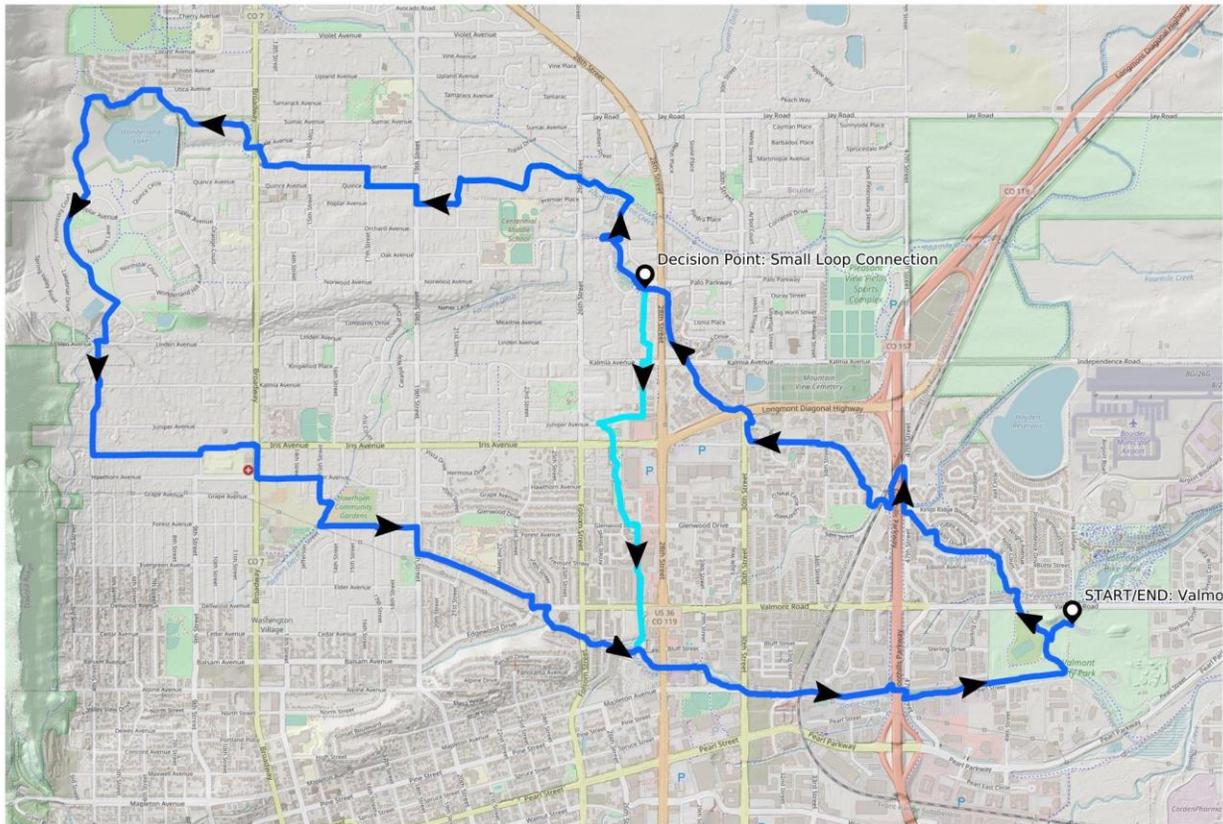
Take the Foothills Parkway underpass. At 47th Street, jog right to the crosswalk and rejoin the Goose Creek Greenway Path east of 47th. Keep walking east on the paved path to the junction with the Wonderland Creek Greenway Path at the south edge of Valmont City Park. Turn left (north) onto Wonderland Creek Path and walk to the parking area.



You made it!

Map: Go Gaga for Greenways!

Online: <https://caltopo.com/m/3SHS>



Mercator Projection
WGS84
USNG Zone 13TDE
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