

Rock River – West Grove – Mt. Morris Loop

Your ride begins at the historic Depot and proceeds through Oregon on quiet neighborhood streets. As you leave town, you'll travel on the wide shoulder of Rte 2, which has exceptional views of the scenic Rock River, the newest National Water Trail **1**. A large lot and ramp for recreational boaters is on your right. On the left is the public entry to Stronghold Church camp, site of Stronghold Castle **2**. Further ahead on your left is the Silver Ridge Golf Course nestled in the hills along the river.

Turning left onto Town Hall will lead you on a slow climb out of the valley. The terrain consists of hills, valleys, oak groves and pastures. West of Leaf River Rd., however, the route straightens out into flat fertile farmland. The ride becomes fast and easy. Silver Creek Cemetery on West Grove Rd. near Leaf River Rd. is a pleasant place to perhaps stop and rest.

A left at orchard eventually takes you to Rte 64 just a short distance from the town of Mt. Morris, a quiet historical community. It was the site of one of the earliest colleges in Illinois – whose buildings are still on the town square. Mt. Morris **3** hosts public summer band concerts on the square on Wednesday evenings and a variety of other music on Friday nights. The town is also home to the very successful "Let Freedom Ring" festival over the 4th of July – which has the best fireworks display in the county.

As you travel out of town on McKendrie Street you will see Pinecrest Adult Living and Community Center on your right **4**, one of the most comprehensive facilities of its type in the region, including a community theatre group. It is also home to the McKendrie Street Café where you can always get a delicious ice cream cone and other food items.

The road south of town returns to the country landscape, and a brief mile of gravel road until crossing Ridge Rd. The final stretch on Oregon Trail Rd. curves through woods and pastures before finishing with a fun set of roller coaster hills. You turn into Oregon's Park West **5** with its sledding hill, splash park, ball parks, tennis courts and soccer fields. The trail then goes through prairie wetlands on an elevated boardwalk, the community garden, and residential streets to finish where you began.

 **Oregon Depot:**
<http://www.oregondepot.org/>

1 National Water Trails System:
<https://www.nps.gov/WaterTrails/Trail/Info/46>

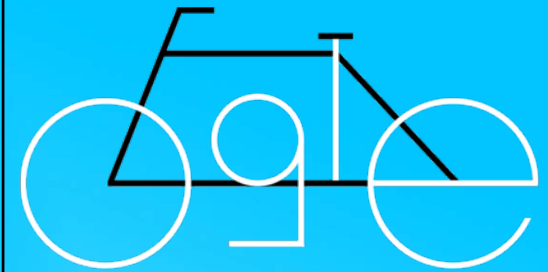
2 Stronghold Castle:
<http://www.strongholdcenter.org/>

3 Village of Mt. Morris:
<http://mtmorrisil.net/>

4 Pinecrest:
<http://www.pinecrestcommunity.org/>

5 Oregon Park West:
<http://www.oregonpark.org/park-west>

Mt Morris, West Grove Road, and a ride along the Rock River		
Leg	Notes	Total
	Turn left onto S 3rd St	0.1
1.2	S 3rd St turns slightly left and becomes Illinois St	1.3
0.1	Turn right onto N 5th St	1.4
0.3	Turn right onto Fair St	1.7
0	Turn left onto IL-2 N/N 4th St	1.7
3.8	Turn left onto W Town Hall Rd	5.5
1.7	Turn left onto W West Grove Rd	7.2
3	Turn right onto W W Grove Rd	10.2
0	Turn left onto W West Grove Rd	10.3
3	Turn left onto N Orchard Rd	13.3
1.5	Turn left onto W Midtown Rd	14.8
0.5	Turn right onto N Willow Rd	15.3
1.5	Turn left onto IL-64 E	16.8
0.6	Turn right onto N Fletcher Ave	17.4
0.2	Turn left onto W Center St	17.6
0.4	Turn right onto S McKendrie Ave	18
0.4	Continue onto N Mt Morris Rd	18.4
0.9	Slight right toward N Mt Morris Rd	19.3
0	Slight left onto N Mt Morris Rd	19.3
0.8	Turn left onto W Oregon Trail Rd	20.2
0.5	Turn right onto S Harmony Rd	20.6
0.1	Turn left onto W Oregon Trail Rd	20.8
3.0	Turn right into Park West	23.8
1.5	Turn right onto S. 10th St.	25.3
0.2	Turn left onto Rhoads Pl	25.5
0.1	Turn left onto S. 8th St.	25.6
0.1	Turn right onto Webster St	25.7
0.2	Turn right onto N 5th St	25.9
0.4	S 5th St turns left and becomes Collins St	26.3



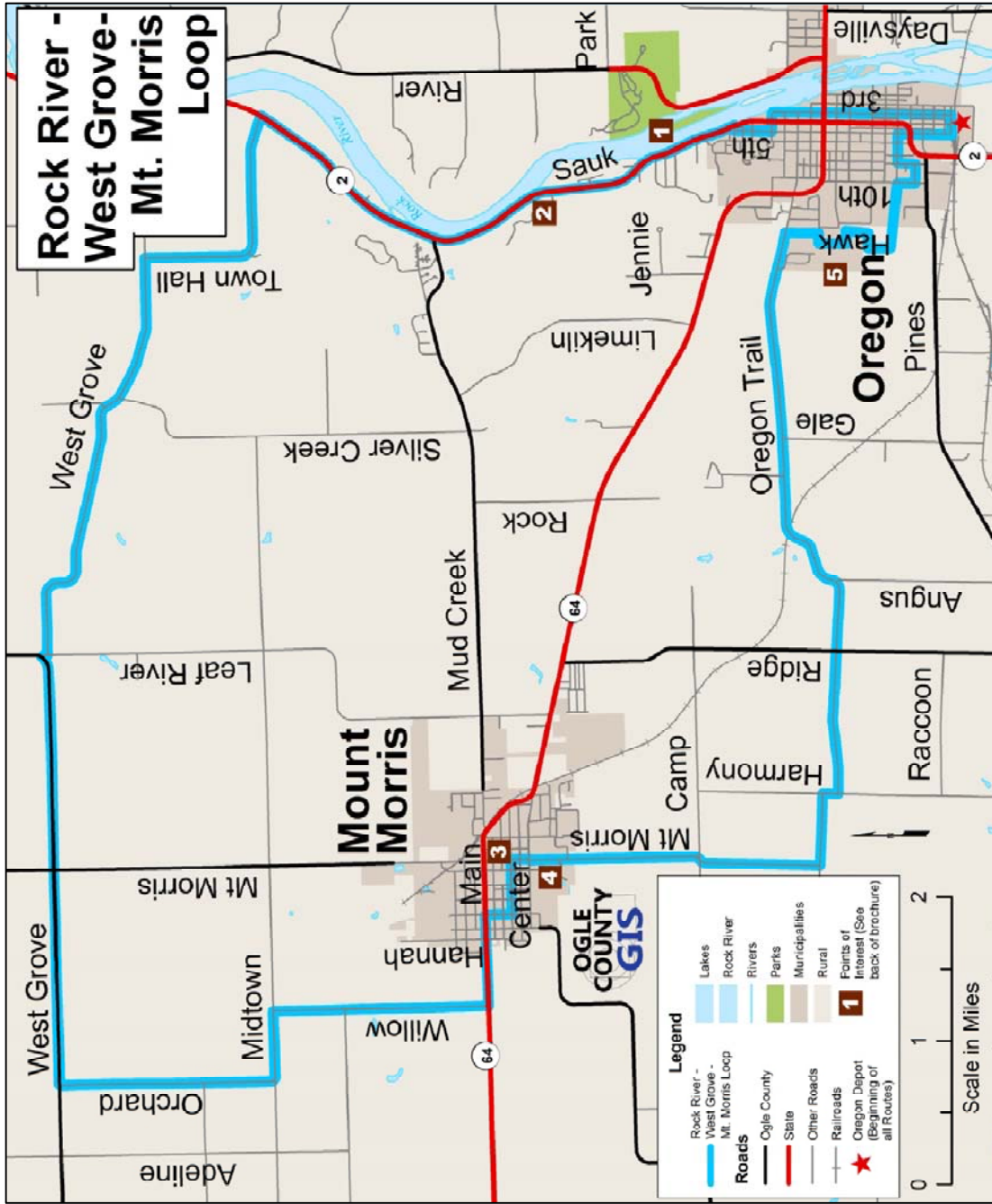
Bike Ogle County, Illinois



Rock River – West Grove – Mt. Morris Loop (26.3 mi)



Bike, Eat, Sleep...Oregon, Illinois



To see all of our routes, and to download Garmin turn by turn instructions, go to:
www.bikeogle.org

