



Nature

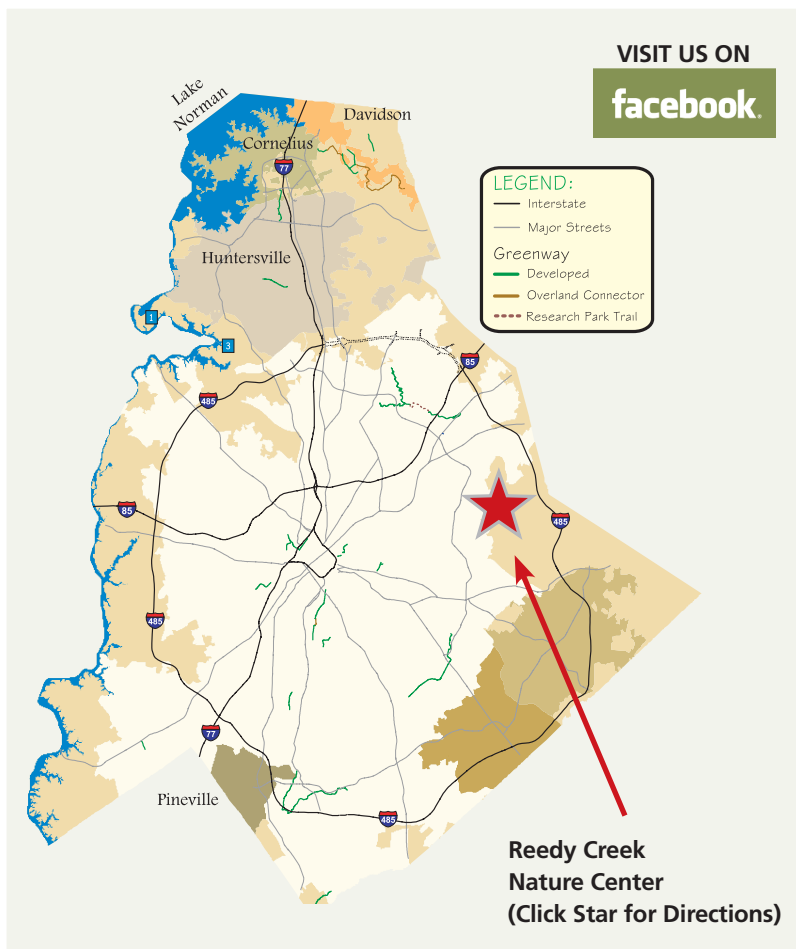
Reedy Creek Nature Center

2900 Rocky River Road • 704-432-6459 • Open Mon-Sat, 9:00am to 5:00pm and Sun 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Reedy Creek Nature Preserve protects 737 acres of natural, forested habitat within Reedy Creek Park. There are over 10 miles of hiking trails in the nature preserve for the outdoor enthusiast, giving visitors the opportunity to explore a variety of terrains while enjoying scenic views of small lakes, forests, fields, streams and wildlife. Reedy Creek Nature Center is also home to the Dr. James F. Matthews Center for Biodiversity Studies.

- **Covers over 737 Acres**
- **10 Miles of Hiking Trails**
- **Nature Center & Gift Shop**
- **Historic Robinson Rock House**
- **18-hole Disc Golf Course**
- **10 Reservable Picnic Shelters**
- **Fishing at Dragonfly or Slider Ponds**
- **Barkingham Park Dog Park**

Outside, visitors can stop and observe nature in action at the National Wildlife Federation certified Backyard Habitat Garden, which includes bird feeding stations and a demonstration compost area. Self-interpretive trail guides are available for several nature preserve trails.



Summer 2014 Programs & Activities





Reedy Creek Nature Center

Nature Preserves

Hike for Your Health

Get outside, get moving and get healthy! Enjoy fresh air, sunshine and beautiful surroundings with like-minded people. Must be able to hike 4-5 miles at a moderate pace on uneven terrain.

Ages 12 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

Ongoing Tue 5:00pm to 6:00pm

Yoga at the Nature Center

Slow down and connect with your breath in this gentle yoga class. No experience needed.

Ages 16 and up **\$5.00 per class**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

Ongoing Tue 6:15pm to 7:15pm



100-mile Hike Club

Ready for a challenge? Come hike a hundred miles. Register for our hikes throughout the year and earn credit miles to earn a t-shirt, patch and more. Membership to the club is free but each hike may have a small fee. Any naturalist led hike counts towards your credit miles. A staff signature is required for credit.

Ages 8 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#53950 Ongoing

Weekday Wanderers

Join a naturalist as we explore natural areas in and around Mecklenburg County. These casual hikes will take us to a variety of preserved habitats, each with their own story to tell. Take time out to enjoy the beauty found in these special places. Must be able to walk 5-6 miles on uneven terrain. Bring a bag lunch, plenty of water and comfortable hiking shoes.

Ages 18 and up **\$8.00**

Start at Reedy Creek Nature Center

Landsford Canal/40-acre Rock

#58933 Jun 5 Thu 9:00am to 4:00pm

Lake Norman State Park

#58934 Jul 10 Thu 9:00am to 4:00pm

Seven Oaks Nature Trail

#58935 Aug 7 Thu 9:00am to 4:00pm

Budding Adventures

Calling all kids and parents! Discover the awakening of the spring plants and animals through various hands-on activities such as crafts, games, stories, puppets, hikes and more. We will learn about plant life, animals and their homes, weather and more. Come and explore with us. Parent participation encouraged.

Ages 3 to 6 **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58936 Jun 2 Mon 10:00am to 11:00am

#58937 Jun 16 Mon 10:00am to 11:00am

#58938 Jun 30 Mon 10:00am to 11:00am

#58939 Jul 14 Mon 10:00am to 11:00am

#58940 Jul 28 Mon 10:00am to 11:00am

#58941 Aug 11 Mon 10:00am to 11:00am

Young Naturalist Club of Mecklenburg County

Youth interested in exploring the natural world, this club is for you! We will meet on the first Saturday of every month for hikes, presentations and fun! We will partner with local environmental groups to explore the world of birding, herpetology, native plants and more! Bring a bag lunch, plenty of water and comfortable hiking shoes. (No Meeting in July)

Ages 12 to 18 **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58942 Jun 7 Sat 9:00am to 1:00pm

#58943 Aug 2 Sat 9:00am to 1:00pm

National Trails Day

Join Reedy Creek and the Mecklenburg County Young Naturalist Club as we celebrate National Trails Day! Trail hikes, activities and a trail clean-up are planned.

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58944 Jun 7 Sat 10:00am to 12:00pm

Wonders of Nature Scavenger Hunt

Led by a trusted naturalist, search the nature preserve for the hidden natural treasures. Are you stealthy and observant enough to become a nature sleuth? Come find out!

Ages 8 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58945 Jun 8 Sun 2:00pm to 3:00pm



Evening Kayak at Mountain Island Lake

Enjoy a naturalist-led kayak on Mountain Island Lake. This will be a relaxing paddle weaving in and out through the coves of the lake. All levels welcome.

Ages 12 and up **\$15.00/Single \$20.00/Tandem**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58946 Jun 11 Wed 6:00pm to 9:00pm

#58947 Jun 25 Wed 6:00pm to 9:00pm

#58948 Jul 9 Wed 6:00pm to 9:00pm

#58949 Aug 13 Wed 6:00pm to 9:00pm

#58950 Aug 27 Wed 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Modern Survival Series: Keeping Yourself Alive!

What if you were on a day hike and you fell and broke your ankle? What would you do? Could you get help or survive the night? This course will go over the essentials a person should always have when venturing into the outdoors. Different scenarios will be discussed and role played to better prepare yourself your next outdoor excursion.

Ages 8 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58951 Jun 12 Thu 2:00pm to 3:00pm



Reedy Creek Nature Center

Twilight Hike

As the sun goes down, the preserve is just waking up. The animals are in search of their breakfast and are quite busy. Join us as we search for these creatures and learn about the adaptations of our nighttime animals.

Ages 8 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58952 Jun 13 Fri 6:30pm to 7:30pm

Tracking for Dummies

The larger animals of Reedy Creek are hard to find, but they are out there. Learn the ways of a tracker and find the signs of these animals out on the preserve.

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58953 Jun 14 Sat 3:00pm to 4:00pm

Krafty Kidz

Have fun learning while making nature theme related crafts with your child. Each day will be a new set of crafts based on a different theme. Parent participation is required.

Ages 2 to 7 **\$2.00**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58954 Jun 14 Sat 11:00am to 12:00pm

#58955 Jul 19 Sat 11:00am to 12:00pm

#58956 Aug 9 Sat 11:00am to 12:00pm

The Nature of Greenways

See the Greenways through different eyes as a naturalist guides you on a walk along this wildlife corridor. This will be a casual, family friendly hike with stops along the way to explore the monthly topic. Must be able to walk 3 miles.

All Ages **FREE**

4-mile Creek Greenway

#58957 Jun 14 Sat 2:30pm to 4:00pm

Mallard Creek (Kirk Farm)

#58958 Jul 12 Sat 2:30pm to 4:00pm

McAlpine Greenway

#58959 Aug 9 Sat 2:30pm to 4:00pm

Reedy Creek Eco Race

Get ready to test your will and wit! This mini adventure race will begin with a crash course on how to use a compass topped off with an exhilarating dash to the finish line. Thinking caps and closed toed shoes required.

Ages 10 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58960 Jun 15 Sun 2:30pm to 4:00pm

#58961 Aug 24 Sun 2:30pm to 4:00pm

Wilderness Primitive

Skills Series: Cordage

Making rope from plants (also known as cordage) is an age old practice dating back some 28,000 years. Today, rope has many practical uses especially when in an outdoor setting. Learn what plants have the best fibers for making rope and then practice a simple braiding technique to create your own length of rope.

Ages 10 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58962 Jun 18 Wed 2:00pm to 3:00pm



Biodiversity Hike

Discover the natural areas of North Carolina with a naturalist. Each month we will journey to a different destination in search of all that is wild and beautiful! Must be able to hike 6 - 8 miles on uneven terrain.

Ages 18 and up **\$12.00**

Start at Reedy Creek Nature Center

Lake James State Park

#58963 Jun 21 Sat 8:00am to 8:00pm

Grandfather Mountain (VERY STRENUOUS)

#58964 Jul 19 Sat 8:00am to 8:00pm

Florence Nature Preserve

#58965 Aug 16 Sat 8:00am to 8:00pm

Summer Camp Survival

Summer is here and that means one thing: time for camp! Every summer camper needs a few special items to make it through the day. Spend some time with a Nature Center educator as you decorate water bottles, make some sit-upons, and break in an all natural hiking stick.

Ages 7 and up **\$3.00 per person**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58969 Jun 21 Sat 11:00am to 12:00pm

Turtles, Tortoises, and Terrapins... Oh My!

What is the difference between turtles and tortoises? How fast can a turtle really go? What do turtles like to eat? And what exactly is a terrapin? Come visit with Reedy Creek's very own Peter the Box Turtle and his friends to learn everything you ever wanted to know about these terrific creatures.

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58970 Jun 22 Sun 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Nature Story Corner

Settle in and get comfortable as we read a variety of nature based stories. Stories may be accompanied by puppets and audience participation as we learn about the wonders of nature! After the story we will hike into the forest to do a themed activity based on the story.

Ages 3 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58971 Jun 23 Mon 10:00am to 11:00am

#58973 Jul 7 Mon 10:00am to 11:00am

#58974 Jul 21 Mon 10:00am to 11:00am

#58975 Aug 4 Mon 10:00am to 11:00am

#58976 Aug 18 Mon 10:00am to 11:00am

Register 1 of 3 Ways:

Registration is required for most programs whether or not there is a fee. *Select an option:*

1. **CLICK on Eparks** at www.parkandrec.com and use the course code number.
2. **CALL 311 (704-336-7600)** or the number listed for that program.
3. **COME to the location** where the program is offered.

Recreation & Nature Center addresses and phone numbers listed on pgs. 32, 36 and 39. Phone and Web registration requires payment with Visa or MasterCard only.

Visit Us On **facebook**



Reedy Creek Nature Center

Good Ol' Fashioned Frog Stomp!

Prepare yourself for a wet and muddy adventure as we explore the home of the frogs. If you're stealthy and have a touch of luck, you might capture one of these slippery friends! Wear shoes and clothes that can get wet.

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58977 Jun 24 Tue 10:00am to 11:00am



Modern Survival Series: Shelter Building

Unexpectedly you find yourself stranded in a wilderness area. You soon realize spending the night is your only option, as the sun is setting, but you do not have a tent! Would you know what to do? Learn to construct different shelters using tarps and other items that can be found in a properly prepared backpack and test them out in the preserve.

Ages 8 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58979 Jun 25 Wed 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Birding Basics

Ever look outside and wonder what type of bird that is or how to properly use binoculars? This class will go over the common birds in the area and how to properly use your binoculars to see them better.

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58981 Jun 27 Fri 10:00am to 11:00am

Creek Walkin'

Join us as we walk deep into the preserve, where we are bound by no trails, but instead travel through the creek. See the hidden and untouched parts of the preserve on this journey. Must be able to walk 2 miles.

Ages 7 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58982 Jul 1 Tue 2:00pm to 3:30pm

#58983 Jul 29 Tue 10:00am to 11:30pm

Wilderness Primitive Skills Series: Fire Craft

Fire building is an art form for any primitive skills expert. Because you are not in a "survival" situation, there is no immediate need for a fire. It is rather a skill garnished by ones knowledge of trees, surroundings and a test of patience. We will go over the different tools for making a friction fire, demonstrate the different techniques and give you the chance to try it out. Parents must stay with children.

Ages 10 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58984 Jul 2 Wed 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Great American Backyard Campout

Celebrate this national event! We are inviting families who have yet to experience the joy of spending the night in the great outdoors. This program is geared towards families that are new to camping. Registration and parent participation is required.

Ages 8 and up **\$3.00**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

Initial Meeting Jun 28, Campout Jul 5-6

#59260 Jun 28 Sat 10:00am to 11:00am

Jul 5-6 Sat-Sun 4:30pm to 8:00am

Modern Survival Series: Fire Building

So you have come to terms with your survival situation and must spend at least one night in the wilderness. Hopefully, you were prepared and packed some matches, a lighter or some flint and steel to start a fire. We will cover the modern fire building technique and the proper set-up for a fire. Then, you will test your knowledge by building and attempting to start and maintain a fire. Parents must stay with children.

Ages 10 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58995 Jul 9 Wed 2:00pm to 3:00pm



Fishing with Dr. Suess

Hear Dr. Suess's classic story, "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish" and learn about the fish in our lakes and ponds. Kids will also learn how to cast with a fun fishing game! Parent participation required.

Ages 4 to 8 **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58993 Jul 5 Sat 10:00am to 11:00am

#58994 Jul 5 Sat 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Sneaky Snakes

How are snakes able to survive all over the world? Is it their camouflage? Their venom? Their lack of feet? We are determined to slither straight to the heart of this mystery! Come help us interrogate some of the nature center snakes as we search for answers.

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58996 Jul 13 Sun 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Dragons of the Skies

Join us as we learn about these fascinating insects that fly and zip around the grasses feeding on unsuspecting prey. We will then go out for a hike, trying our hand at catching and identifying the dragonflies and other insects we find.

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#58997 Jul 15 Tue 10:00am to 11:00am

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For More Information or to Register Visit

www.parkandrec.com



Reedy Creek Nature Center



Wilderness Primitive Skills Series: Tool Making

The wilderness provides us with all the tools we need, but it takes skill to craft the raw materials. Learn how to make different hunting and cooking tools in the class from your natural environment. Parents must stay with children for this course.

Ages 10 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59006 Jul 16 Wed 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Bat Night

Come join us for a night filled with bat activities! Learn why bats are important and why we shouldn't be scared of them. Be prepared to hike in the dark. Fun for the family! Parents must stay with children.

Ages 6 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59007 Jul 18 Fri 8:00pm to 9:00pm

Parent and Me Tot Trots

Experience nature together with your child. Hikes will be sensory based surrounding your child in nature's beauty. It will also give you, the parent, the experience of how to use nature as a learning platform.

Ages 1 to 2 **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59008 Jul 19 Sat 9:30am to 10:15am

#59009 Aug 9 Sat 9:30am to 10:15am

Feed the Birds

Summer may mean a break for young humans, but it's a season of work for the birds! Take a break from summer vacation and do a little work as you build bird houses and feeders from new and recycled materials.

Ages 4 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59129 Jul 20 Sun 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Modern Survival Series: Cooking Techniques

These cooking techniques can be applied to a survival situation or any camping outing. They are very practical and fun. Join us for a demonstration and light snack around the fire. Great time to ask questions as well!

Ages 8 and up **\$3.00**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59130 Jul 23 Wed 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Creek Stomp

Who needs a pool? Cool off in Reedy Creek Nature Preserve's very own Reedy Creek! Wade in shallow water as you look for salamanders, crawfish, and other creek dwellers in the shade of the nature preserve. Participants should wear closed toe shoes and be prepared to get wet and muddy!

Ages 5 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59131 Jul 26 Sat 11:00am to 12:00pm

Say Hello to the Herps!

Herpetology is the study of amphibians and reptiles, animals better know as the "scaly and slimy" crew. Come chat with a naturalist and the herps at Reedy Creek to find out just what makes these animals so fascinating!

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59132 Jul 27 Sun 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Wilderness Primitive Skill Series: Procuring Water

Without modern commodities, knowledge of producing water becomes extremely important. Water from natural flowing sources can contain harmful and deadly bacteria, so proper procurement is a must. After demonstrations, you will try your hand at the different techniques.

Ages 8 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59133 Jul 30 Wed 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Parents Night Out!

Parents, enjoy a night on the town and let Reedy Creek entertain your children, while they experience nature at night! Activities will include games, a live animal encounter, a night hike, a campfire with s'mores plus a tasty pizza dinner! Drop children off between 5:00pm and 5:30pm. Bring your own drinks.

\$20.00 per child, \$15.00 first additional sibling, \$10.00 each additional sibling

Ages 5 to 12

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59134 Jul 31 Thu 5:00pm to 9:00pm



Hiking 101

Hiking is a fun activity that can be shared by the whole family. But what should you bring with you? Where should you go? And just what should you put in your trail mix? Join a naturalist to whip up some GORP trail mix (*Granola, Oats, Raisins, and Peanuts*) and learn all about how to plan the perfect hike! Must be able to hike 1 mile on uneven terrain.

Ages 7 and up **\$1.00**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59135 Aug 2 Sat 10:00am to 11:00am

The Art of Papermaking

Come and learn how to make your own paper! We will recycle old paper into brand new paper that can be used for note cards and letters. You can bring paper from your own recycling bin to use!

Ages 6 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59136 Aug 3 Sun 2:00pm to 3:00pm

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Reedy Creek Nature Center

Modern Survival Series: Signaling for Rescue

So you have made it through a night or two, maybe even three and you hear or see a sign of life. Rescue is close by, but how do you get their attention? With proper planning you have the right supplies to signal or create a proper signal and your ordeal is finally over. Learn about these life saving techniques because you never know when you will need them!

Ages 8 and up **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59137 Aug 6 Wed 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Insect Madness

It is late summer and as you walk outside there is buzzing all around you, but what could it be? Insects, glorious insects are singing their heart out. Come learn about these "cool" creatures and try your hand at catching them!

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59138 Aug 7 Thu 10:00am to 11:00am

"WHO" Cooks for You?

Come join us for an evening with owls. We will dissect owl pellets and go on a short hike to hear owls. It'll be a hoot! Parents must stay with children.

Ages 6 and up **\$3.00**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59139 Aug 8 Fri 8:00pm to 9:00pm



Campfire Roast

Come out and enjoy a campfire roasting marshmallows and hot dogs. This is a great time to ask a naturalist all the questions you have been dying to ask!

All Ages **\$3.00**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59143 Aug 30 Sat 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Gnome Homes and Fairy House

Come out to the secret place on the preserve where gnomes and fairies are known to be around. Build your own gnome home or fairy house with natural supplies!

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59144 Aug 31 Sun 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Wilderness Primitive Skills Series: Cooking Over a Fire

After hunting your food with your handmade tools, it is time to feast! You start your fire, without matches or course, and use the handmade cooking tools for a meal you will surely appreciate. Learn how to make these tools and ways to cook without modern commodities.

Ages 8 and up **\$3.00**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59140 Aug 13 Wed 2:00pm to 3:00pm

The Summer of Hummingbirds

Ziping and zagging all around, these tiniest of tiny birds are all around. Learn what hummingbirds we have native to the area, what attracts them and their amazing migration story.

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59145 Aug 16 Sat 10:00am to 11:00am

Fluttering Butterflies

From caterpillar to butterfly, these amazing insects are a tale to tell. Learn about these creatures and then go out on the preserve to catch some of them.

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59141 Aug 17 Sun 2:00pm to 3:00pm

A Naturalist's Walk

Join a naturalist and walk through the forest to notice everything that is going on. It will surely be a sensory overload. Get in tune with your wild side!

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#59142 Aug 30 Sat 10:00am to 11:00am

Reedy Creek Nature Center



Hummingbird Festival

Hummingbird Festival

Calling all bird lovers! Come celebrate the Ruby-throated Hummingbird - one of the fastest and prettiest birds - at Reedy Creek Nature Center's day long event. All ages will enjoy crafts, nature walks, exhibits, and story telling, as well as special bird banding demonstrations by ornithologists. The race is on for their great migration south for the winter so you don't want to miss this last chance glance at these amazing creatures. The event is free, however, donations are appreciated. Rain or shine. Call 704-432-6460 for more information.

All Ages **FREE**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

No # Needed Aug 23 Sat 10:00am to 4:00pm

For More Information or to Register Visit

www.parkandrec.com



Reedy Creek Nature Center

Summer Camps

Mini Naturalists

Come learn and play with us. Children will be engaged in the exploration of the natural world around them through hands-on activities, sensory based authentic experiences and games. From stomping in a stream to chasing butterflies to resting under a tree listening to nature, we will have a grand ol' time while deepening our connection with nature. Each camp will have different activities, but the structure will be the same.

Ages 4 to 6 **\$75.00**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#53354 Jun 16-20 Mon-Fri 9:00am to 12:00pm

#53355 Jul 7-11 Mon-Fri 9:00am to 12:00pm

#53356 Jul 21-25 Mon-Fri 9:00am to 12:00pm

N.S.I - Nature Science Investigators

Who left that track in the mud? Who made that nest? Who lives in that burrow? Campers will investigate clues in nature during this week of exploration and sleuthing. Come be a Nature Scene Investigator!

Ages 10 to 12 **\$120.00**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#53358 Jun 30-Jul 3 Mon-Thu 9:00am to 4:00pm

Wild Adventures in Nature

Discover the wild side of nature during this adventure camp focused on the wildlife of North Carolina. Highlights include kayaking and an overnight camping experience (Overnight will be at Hanging Rock State Park on Wed/Thurs night).

Ages 13 to 17 **\$165.00**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#53671 Jul 21-25 Mon-Fri 9:00am to 4:00pm

Nature Adventure Camp (Ages 10 to 12)

Let nature guide you on a fun filled week of adventure and discovery in the great outdoors! You can look forward to kayaking, hiking, geocaching and more.

Ages 10 to 12 **\$150.00**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#53360 Jul 28-Aug 1 Mon-Fri 9:00am to 4:00pm

Nature Adventure Camp (Ages 7 to 9)

Let nature guide you on a fun-filled week of adventure and discovery in the great outdoors! You can look forward to kayaking, hiking, geocaching and more.

Ages 7 to 9 **\$150.00**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#53361 Aug 4-8 Mon-Fri 9:00am to 4:00pm



Wilderness Living Camp

Get in sync with nature and learn wilderness living skills. We will tune ourselves into the natural world and learn how to track wild animals, learn their calls and know their life. We will learn the art of shelter building and how to make ourselves warm and comfortable, do wild crafting, orienteering and so much more. Start your journey into how to thrive in the wilderness, not just survive. A one night camping trip (Thursday to Friday) will conclude the week's journey.

Ages 10 to 12 **\$150.00**

Reedy Creek Nature Center

#53362 Aug 11-15 Mon-Fri 9:00am to 4:00pm



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