Appropriately named the Umbrella Tree (Magnolia tripetala), the large leaves of this deciduous magnolia shade the banks of the south fork of Reedy Creek.

Reedy Creek Park
- 116 acres
- Numerous active and passive recreational and educational opportunities
- Picnic shelters and grills
- 3 play areas
- 18 hole disc golf course
- Fishing pier
- Off leash dog park
- Athletic fields and courts

Reedy Creek Nature Preserve
- Reedy Creek Nature Preserve protects over 832 acres of natural, forested habitats
- Mixed pine and hardwood forest, open fields, lakes, and streams
- Historical significance with cabin ruins and remains of the Robinson Rockhouse

Reedy Creek Nature Center
- Exhibit hall and gift shop
- Bird viewing area
- Live animals
- Backyard habitat garden

Facilities
- Over 10 miles of hiking trails offer outdoor enthusiasts the opportunity to explore a variety of terrains while enjoying scenic views of the small lakes, forests, fields, streams and wildlife.

Reedy Creek Nature Center
- Monday - Saturday 9:00AM to 5:00PM
- Sunday 1:00PM to 5:00PM
- www.reedycreekrestoration.com
- For more updates visit www.parkandrec.com

Nature Preserve Rules
- For your safety, walk with a friend and stay on designated trails
- Hiking trails are only for pedestrians
- Bicycles and motorized vehicles are restricted to paved roads
- Collection, removal, or disturbance of any natural or cultural object is prohibited
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited (except with a valid shelter reservation and permit)
- Pets must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet
- Children under the age of 16 are required to wear a helmet while riding bicycles, skateboards or rollerblades
- No swimming or wading is allowed
- Introduction of plants or animals to the preserve is prohibited

Hiking Trails

Umbrella Tree Trail
- 1.0 mile trail
- Moderate with some uphill and downhill sections.
- Passes through some of the most botanically significant areas of the Nature Preserve. Hikers have the opportunity to walk through the mature hardwood forest that contains rich flora and fauna. Large boulders dot the scenery along the trail.
- Rated easy.

Big Oak Trail
- 1.0 mile trail
- Rated easy
- Begin off of the Umbrella Tree Trail approximately 0.25 miles behind the nature center.
- Big Oak Trail parallels Plaza Road Extension at the southern limit of the Nature Preserve before connecting back to the Umbrella Tree Trail.
- Moderate trail with some uphill and downhill sections.

Sierra Loop Trail
- 1.5 mile loop trail
- Moderate trail with some uphill and downhill sections.

Sassafras Trail
- 0.6 mile gravelled, loop trail
- Rated easy
- Begins behind one of the park’s picnic shelter areas. Passes through shady, upland hardwood forests of oak and hickory and provides access to the Sierra Loop Trail. Dragonfly Pond can also be accessed from this trail via a short connector.

Sierra Club

Fishing
- Fishing is allowed in both Dragonfly and Kingfisher Ponds. Ages 16 and over are required to have a valid North Carolina fishing license in order to fish. Dragonfly Pond has an accessible fishing dock.
- The Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department participates in the North Carolina Fishing Tackle Loaner program. Visitors can “check out” a rod and reel for a day, free of charge, from the Nature Center. Equipment must be returned in good condition. Fishing license and bait are not sold at the park.

Biking
- To prevent trail erosion and limit disturbances to wildlife and sensitive habitats, bicycles and motor vehicles use in the nature preserve is limited to paved parking surfaces only. Mountain bike trails can be found at:
  - Jetton Park on Lake Norman
  - Sherman Branch
  - Ramsey Creek Park
  - Renaissance Park
  - Colonel Francis Beatty Park
  - North Meck Park
  - US National White Water Center
- In addition, the county has an extensive system of paved Greenway trails, perfect for biking.

Educational Programs
Reedy Creek Nature Center staff develop and present a variety of environmental education and nature programs at the Nature Center for the general public, schools, teachers, and other organizations.