

Roaming Around Reidsville

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“Do What You Love in Reidsville.” That’s on the front of one of the City’s newest brochures designed to appeal to retirees looking for a new place to land. We are very proud that since 2015, Reidsville has been a Certified Retirement Community, a designation given by the State of North Carolina. And they haven’t given that many of them out! Only 18 cities currently have received the honor in NC.

How do you get to be one? As it notes on the Retire NC website, earning such a designation means a city has completed a comprehensive evaluation process with requirements outlined by the NC General Assembly. These communities are recognized for providing the amenities, services and opportunities retirees need to enjoy active and productive lives. On top of that, Reidsville recently received the American Association of Retirement Communities’ Seal of Approval for the second year in a row. AARC, a not-for-profit professional organization, has some pretty stringent standards to get the Seal of Approval, and so far, Reidsville is the only city in North Carolina to measure up.

Let’s face it! Today’s retirees aren’t just sitting on the front porch rocking their lives away, even if they’ve earned the right to. They are active seniors who are looking forward to the next phase of their lives – perhaps launching a new business or learning a new activity. So, they are looking for things to do.

Enter RCARE, also known as the Reidsville Center for Active Retirement Enterprise. Still called by many the Reidsville Senior Center, it was renamed to showcase the fact that it is designed for our residents who want to remain active. The traditional classes and trips are offered there, but the state-of-the-art facility also features a free gym and fitness center. Citizens can often be found there playing pickleball or taking an aerobics class. Like the City of Reidsville itself, RCARE is no stranger to accolades. The facility is a designated “Center of Excellence”, which again, isn’t given out to many senior centers across North Carolina.



While it may be a little chilly this time of year to be outside walking, the benefits of exercising along one of Reidsville's many walking trails can't be denied. Whether you're traveling the sidewalks of the City's historic districts or the "Roam Reidsville" walking tour or taking a stroll on the City's network of greenways, you can't go wrong. The newest walking trails in the City can be found at Lake Reidsville recreational park on Water Works Road. Enjoying nature and maybe catching sight of birds along the NC Birding Trail there will make the exercise that much sweeter! Maybe the water is your thing ... visitors to Lake Reidsville can enjoy fishing, kayaking, paddle boarding, boating, pedal boats and more. Many retirees like to take to the open road upon retirement, taking an RV to relax and enjoy nature. Luckily you don't have far to go to enjoy camping at Lake Reidsville. You can pull up your RV up to the campground site or pitch a tent. The City's other lake, Lake Hunt, tends to be more rustic and a great place to fish as well.

Those aren't Reidsville's only attributes though. Market Square in downtown Reidsville provides a beautiful setting for downtown concerts and events as well as a local Farmer's Market during the season. Reidsville and Rockingham County are also known for a thriving arts community. Those retirees with an artistic flair can hook up with the Rockingham County Arts Council or Theatre Guild.

Many opportunities exist to volunteer, either in the schools or in a variety of civic-minded organizations. In fact, as we have alluded to in the past, it is Reidsville's caring community that helped get us the "All-America City" designation in 2008. Combine top-notch, award-winning healthcare offered by Annie Penn Hospital, part of the Cone Health System, with affordable housing, a great cost of living and commercial spaces available for a startup business, Reidsville appeals to many active retirees, several of whom are finding us online. They visit Reidsville and fall in love with the city, especially with our proximity to larger urban areas like Greensboro. It's the best of both worlds.

For our retirees, it's easy. Like our City motto says, they "Live Simply. Think Big." ... and Stay Active! How about you? If you'd like to learn more about what Reidsville has to offer retirees, go to RiseUpReidsville.com/Retire.