

Deadline to register for the Oct. 10-11 ride is Sept. 25. Four trails, crafts, breakfast, auction, music, steak fry, Sunday worship are included.

Nebraskans can ride horseback through some of the state's most scenic country during the 2009 4-H Trail Ride at the Nebraska National Forest near Halsey on Oct. 10-11.

"Bring your horse and join some 100 other horse enthusiasts at this fun-filled family weekend of horseback riding," said Dewey Teel, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension educator in Antelope County.

Registration deadline for the 11th annual ride is Sept. 25.

The weekend includes four trail rides through the hills and trees, craft making, cowboy breakfast and a fund-raising auction, Teel said. The Baker Family of Ord will provide cowboy music and entertainment after the Saturday evening steak fry and inspirational services on Sunday morning.

Participants have several choices for lodging that include camping at the trailhead, staying in cabins at the Nebraska 4-H Camp, camping in nearby campgrounds, or staying in local motels.

For the non-horseback riders, wagons pulled by teams are available. Wagon riders will enjoy riding along many trails through the trees and hills as well, Teel said.

"Previous rides have proven to be fun and exciting for all ages as riders enjoy the forest and the Sandhills by horseback," he said. "Windmills, livestock, wildlife and wildflowers are common sights along the trails."

Proceeds from the trail ride go to the Nebraska 4-H Foundation to help support many 4-H activities and events.

For more information and registration information, call Sinda Dux at 402-472-1178 or a local UNL Extension office. Complete information can also be found online at <http://www.ne4hfoundation.org/trailridebenefit.htm>.