



**Contact: Lori Stone**

Office: 316.838.9474

[www.wishks.org](http://www.wishks.org)

[lstone@kansas.wish.org](mailto:lstone@kansas.wish.org)

## **Saddle up for Wishes –A Trail Ride @ Kanopolis Lake**

Come enjoy a day or two of horseback riding on the picturesque trails of Horsethief Canyon during Saddle up for Wishes a trail ride to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Kansas Saturday, September 20 and Sunday, September 21, 2008 at Kanopolis State Park.

Situated in the rolling hills, bluffs and woods of the scenic Smokey Hills region of Kansas, Kanopolis State Park is located 33 miles southwest of Salina. As the first Kansas state park, it has drawn visitors to eastern Ellsworth County since 1955. Kanopolis offers 25 miles of trails, all of which start in the state park. The Rockin' K trails take riders to and from the Rockin' K campgrounds which will be the central location for the weekend's activities.

Pre-registration for the trail will begin on Friday, September 19 between 6-9 p.m. and will start again on Saturday, September 20 from 8-9 a.m. A minimum pledge of \$25 per rider must be paid at registration. Saturday's ride will start promptly at 9:30 am. Riders will need to be sure to pack a sack lunch and beverages for the day and should arrive back at the campsite by approximately 4 p.m.

After dinner, dust off your boots and dance into the night at the Rockin' K Shelter, or just sit back and relax after a day on the trails listening to your favorite country classics from 7-10 p.m. Ride participants will be admitted free, or a \$5 donation will let you join in the fun.

If one day on the trails wasn't enough, after breakfast, you can enjoy a few more hours on horseback beginning at 9:30 am on Sunday and should be back at the campsite by approximately 12 noon. 100% of the proceeds from this event will go toward making more wishes come through for Kansas kids through the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Kansas.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Kansas is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to granting the single favorite wish of Kansas children between the ages of 2 ½ and 18 who have life-threatening medical conditions.

The Rockin' K Horse campgrounds offer expanded facilities for equestrians and their families. Campsites are available. All vehicles entering the park will be required to have a vehicle permit. Permits are \$4.20 per day per vehicle. To make campsite reservations or to inquire about camping fees contact Wendy @ (785) 546-2565. To view a map of the park visit [http://www.kdwp.state.ks.us/news/state\\_parks/locations/kanopolis](http://www.kdwp.state.ks.us/news/state_parks/locations/kanopolis)

For ride registration forms and pledge sheets or for more information about the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Kansas call (316) 838-9474 or visit our website at [www.wishks.org](http://www.wishks.org).

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*Note to reporters and news anchors:* Please use the words "life-threatening" instead of "terminal" to describe an illness. Though the majority of our wish children are aware of the seriousness of their illness, their schoolmates and friends, for instance, might not be.