NEWS RELEASE

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Give Blood, Plant a Tree: Celebrate Earth Day by Renewing Life April 23–24

April 21, 2026 — Give blood. Take home a tree. Renew Life this Earth Day.

On **Thursday, April 23 and Friday, April 24**, donors who give at an Our Blood Institute donor center will **receive a tree seedling to take home and plant**, while supplies last. In Oklahoma and Arkansas, redbud tree seedlings will be provided by **Oklahoma Forestry Services**. In the Texas Panhandle, seedlings will be provided by the **Texas A&M Forest Service**.

As an added bonus, donors will **also receive a limited-edition "Get Your Sticks on Route 66" T-shirt**, celebrating the highway's centennial and the communities it connects.

Every blood donation helps patients in local hospitals, from trauma care and surgeries to cancer treatments and chronic conditions. And with each seedling planted, donors can watch that impact grow long after their appointment is over.

"Donating blood already makes a lifesaving difference," said Dr. John Armitage, president and CEO of Our Blood Institute. "This is a chance to take that impact one step further. You're helping patients today and planting something that will last for years to come."

Blood donation takes about an hour, but the impact can last a lifetime. Just one donation can help save up to three lives.

Anyone who is healthy and 16 years old* or older can give blood. Donation typically takes only about an hour, and one donation saves up to three lives. **Appointments to donate can be made online at obi.org or by calling 877-340-8777. Walk-ins are also welcome.**

**16-year-olds must weigh at least 125 pounds and provide signed parental permission; 17-year-olds must weigh at least 125 pounds; 18+ year olds must weigh at least 110 pounds. Photo ID required.*

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Our Blood Institute is the seventh-largest independent blood center in the nation, with 17 donor centers in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas. OBI is the nonprofit blood provider for patients at more than 240 hospitals, medical facilities and air ambulances across all three states.