

SAVING THE SUMMER BLOOD SUPPLY – IT'S IN THE BAG!



Please make time to donate blood with OBI this summer. From **May 25** through **August 31**, when you give blood, platelets or automated red cells at any OBI donor center or mobile drive, you will walk away with a free, limited edition, lightweight backpack. It is perfect for storing your stuff whether you are off to the lake, the gym or the farmer's market.

Summer vacations from work and school often lead to a slump in blood donations. This decline can put the lives of people in our communities who rely on blood products for survival in jeopardy.

Even more, as donations decrease in the summer months, the need for blood increases. In addition to regularly scheduled surgeries and treatments that require blood, OBI often sees an increase in blood usage due to traumas, like motorcycle, boating and car crashes.

Giving blood is easy, safe and takes less than one hour, but only about 5 percent of the estimated 60 percent of eligible Americans donate blood. But blood donors save lives. That's the bottom line. That is why OBI is asking Oklahomans to come together to help ensure blood reserves are on hand not only for surgeries scheduled at Oklahoma hospitals, but also for emergencies that will happen this summer.