 

**April is National Donate Life Month – TV and Radio Scripts / Talking Points**

April is National Donate Life Month and a time to Show Your Heart in support of organ, eye and tissue donation!

On average, 60% of Wyomingites have signed up as organ, eye and tissue donors and have the hearts on their driver license. **Anyone**, regardless of age or medical condition, can sign up as a donor and be someone’s Hero. Say Yes to organ, eye and tissue donation at the Driver Services Office and be a hero to the nearly 150 Wyomingites who continue to wait for a lifesaving transplant. Once you’ve signed up and discussed donation with your family, you can learn how to further show your support at DonateLifeWyoming.org/ShowYourHeart

**General Suggested Sample Questions and Talking Points:**

**It’s National Donate Life Month – what does that mean?**

National Donate Life Month honors the generosity of organ, eye and tissue donors and their families and commemorates all transplant recipients in the United States throughout the month of April. It gives us a great opportunity to remind all Wyomingites that it’s important to consider registering to give the gift of life as organ, eye and tissue donors.

**Tell us about the local need? How many people are waiting in Wyoming for an organ transplant?**

1. Nearly 150 people in Wyoming are waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant right now – including some children and infants.

2. Another interesting statistic: nationwide there are nearly 115,000 people waiting for a lifesaving transplant. That’s enough to fill War Memorial Stadium almost 4 times!

**Do a lot of Wyomingites sign up as donors? Where do we stack up compared to other states?**

Wyomingites are incredibly generous and consistently have some of the highest donor designation rates in the country. Right now 60% of Wyoming adults are signed up as donors.

However, as long as there is still a waiting list for transplants, our work is not done, and we encourage all Wyomingites to consider signing up.

**What events and celebrations are planned in our area for National Donate Life Month?**

**Show Your Heart and Save– April 1-30:**

April 1-30, 2019, local movie theaters will be offering a medium popcorn; FREE to those showing the hearts on their driver license or one of our inspirational hearts in celebration of National Donate Life Month. Participating movie theaters include the below and more info is available at DonateLifeWyoming.org/ShowYourHeart.

**Wyoming: Casper, Cheyenne, Laramie and Sweetwater County (**Rock Springs and Green River**)**

**National Blue & Green Day – April 12:**

On Friday, April 12th, supporters of organ, eye and tissue donation around the United States will celebrate National Blue & Green Day as part of National Donate Life Month!

Use this opportunity to illuminate your support of organ, eye and tissue donation and encourage your family and friends to do the same. Celebrate by wearing blue and green to spread awareness about the lifesaving gift of organ, eye and tissue donation. Another easy way to show your support is to light up your porch or driveway with green and blue lights! Just change your normal outdoor lights with some blue and green ones to join in the fun. Snap a picture and share it with us. Share your photos on social media using #ShowYourHeart and be sure to [tag us](https://www.donoralliance.org/who-we-are/about-us/social-media/) (Facebook: [Donate Life Wyoming](https://www.facebook.com/DonateLifeWyoming/). Twitter and Instagram: @DonateLifeWY)

**We’ve all heard myths surround organ & tissue donation. Can you help us sort out the facts?**

1. All major religions support organ, eye and tissue donation and see it as the final act of love and generosity toward others.

2. The first priority of any medical professional is to save lives when sick or injured people come to the hospital – Donation is not an option until death has been declared.

3. There is no cost to the donor or family for organ, eye & tissue donation.

**Who can sign up to be a donor? What is the age limit? What about disease?**

ANYONE can sign up to be an organ, eye and tissue donor regardless of age, race, or medical history! Each person’s medical condition is evaluated at the time of their death to determine what organs and tissues are viable for donation. People living with chronic diseases or those who have a history of cancer or other serious diseases are still encouraged to join the donor registry and may still be viable to be donors. Sign up as a donor and let the medical professionals decide!

**How many lives can be saved from a single donor?**

Eight lives can be saved from a single organ donor and more than 75 lives can be saved and healed through the donation of tissue tissues like skin for burn victims and bone for reconstruction

**What organs can be transplanted? Tissue?**

Heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and small intestine (8 transplantable organs total). Transplantable tissues include corneas, skin, tendons, veins and heart valves.

**My driver’s license doesn’t need to be renewed for a few years…and I don’t want to wait until then to sign up to be a donor. How can I register today?**

You can easily sign up **ANYTIME** at www.DonateLifeWyoming.org. That’s Donate Life Wyoming dot Org. And be sure to share your decision with your family!

**Where can Wyomingites find more information and ask questions about donation and transplantation?**

We encourage any residents who have questions about donation to visit the Donate Life Wyoming Facebook page. Here you can find a wealth of information and also pose questions that will be answered by the donation experts from Donor Alliance. DonateLifeWyoming.org is also a great resource.

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* Be someone’s Hero and show your support for organ, eye and tissue donation. This April, show the hearts on your driver license or show one of our inspirational hearts to receive a FREE medium popcorn at participating movie theaters! To get a list of participating locations and learn more visit DonateLifeWyoming.org/ShowYourtHeart. Be Someone’s hero. Say yes to organ, eye and tissue donation.
* Show Your Heart and Save for National Donate Life Month! Show your support to the nearly 150 people in Wyoming waiting for a lifesaving transplant and save. This April, show the hearts on your driver license at participating movie theaters and receive a FREE medium popcorn! For more details visit DonateLifeWyoming.org/ShowYourHeart or search #ShowYourHeart. Be Someone’s hero. Say yes to organ, eye and tissue donation.