

5 WAYS

to Protect Yourself from IDENTITY THEFT this Holiday Season



1 PASS ON THE NEW STORE CARD APPLICATIONS.

These applications often require writing down personal information on paper—creating an unnecessary level of vulnerability. Ask yourself if the additional discount is worth the risk.

2 BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR SKIMMERS.

Credit card skimmers continue to be discovered at both ATMs and gas pumps. Be on the lookout for signs of tampering before using these devices, such as loose parts or colors that don't seem to match the device.



3 CHECK YOUR ACCOUNT STATEMENTS FREQUENTLY.

The quicker you spot fraudulent activity on your accounts, the quicker your bank or card issuer can put a stop to the activity. Check your accounts several times per week for suspicious transactions.

4 DON'T CLICK ON SUSPICIOUS LINKS.

The rush of the holiday season may cause you to drop your guard on emails. Watch emails for suspicious links even if they appear to be coming from a trusted source.



5 BE CAUTIOUS WHEN SHOPPING ONLINE.

Make sure the online retailers you use are trusted sources by checking for the lock icon on the left side of the URL. Never shop using public Wi-Fi and do NOT send personal information to anyone through a mobile device.