

How to Protect Yourself

- Manage Personal Information Wisely.
- Determine how your information will be used before providing.
- Pay attention to billing cycles.
- Passwords: Avoid using mother's maiden name, date of birth, last four digits of Social Security number, or series of consecutive numbers.
- Minimize the number of credit cards and ID you carry.
- Do not carry Social Security card in wallet/purse.
- Don't give out personal information on telephone, mail, or Internet unless you initiated contact or you are sure whom you are speaking with.
- Keep personal information in a safe place.
- SHRED discarded personal records and documents.
- Verify that your employment records are kept in a secure location.
- Order copies of your credit report yearly from each of the credit reporting agencies by calling (877) 322-8228.