



United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties



South Wood County
**FINANCIAL
STABILITY
COALITION**
A United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties Coalition

FIGHT FRAUD

The cost is increasing:
US consumers lost over
\$8 billion to fraud in 2022.
**How can you avoid
becoming a victim?**

Dealing with fraud or scams is confusing & scary - and if you're not prepared, it can be financially devastating. Last year, **phishing & spoofing attacks combined accounted for the most victims out of all internet crimes reported in Wisconsin.**

DON'T TAKE THE BAIT

Avoid becoming a victim of phishing & spoofing attacks with the information below.

NEXT STEPS

Report a Phishing Attack

Contact the FTC at www.ReportFraud.ftc.gov
If you receive a phishing message at work, report it to your employer immediately.

Place a Fraud Alert

Contact each credit bureau to report the crime and place a fraud alert & statement on your accounts.

Trans Union: (800) 680-7829

Equifax: (800) 525-6285

Experian: (888) 397-3742

Review Your Credit Report

Request your credit report & make sure there are no additional fraudulent accounts or unauthorized changes to existing accounts or personal information.

www.freecreditreport.com

File a Police Report

Call the non-emergency line at (715) 423-4444 for information; file a report in-person.

WHAT IS PHISHING ??

Phishing is an identity-theft scam using "spoofed" (fake) emails & texts to trick you into sharing information like credit card numbers, user names, passwords, or even your social security number.

Phishing attacks are designed to look like a legitimate brand or service which can make them tricky to identify.

WARNING SIGNS

Phishing emails or texts will usually try to scare you with threats like account deactivation, or even claim your information has already been compromised. In other cases, they may offer free goods or services. Whatever the approach, phishing attacks will ask you to click a link which will prompt you to provide personal information.

BEFORE YOU CLICK

1. **Recognize:** Is the sender really who you think? Check the sender's email address by clicking or tapping their name.
2. **Rethink:** Don't recognize the sender? *Don't click any links!!* If the email or text refers to a known site, type the address in a new window to verify the information. Still unsure? Try calling the company from their publicly listed phone number.
3. **Report:** If you get a phishing email or text, or suspect you may have, report it to the FTC at www.ReportFraud.ftc.gov.

RESOURCES

United Way's 211

Dial 2-1-1 or call toll free (877) 947-2211

FTC Identity Theft Hotline

Toll free (877) 438-4338