



CU Connection



Fall GREETING

October, 2017
Volume 24, Issue 4

Holiday Closings

- Columbus Day
Monday, October 9
-
- Thanksgiving & Day After
Thurs. & Fri., Nov. 23-24
-
- Christmas Day
Monday, December 25
-
- New Year's Day
Monday, January 1

Reminder

Staff Training
Closed
3rd Wednesday of
Every month @ Noon

As of January 1, 2017

Due to increasing security regulations & requirements, **We will no longer be able to provide account information over the phone.**

Please understand this is to protect you.

For your convenience, you may access your account using our *SMS Texting feature* or with our *Smartphone App* or by using an *internet based browser with our Home Banking access.*

Call or come by our office to see how to get your access started.

Equifax Data Breach: Steps you might want to consider

In case you missed it, on September 7, 2017, Equifax, one of the three nation-wide credit-reporting companies that track and rate the financial history of U.S. consumers, announced that 143 million people could be affected by a recent data breach in their organization in which cybercriminals stole information including names, Social Security numbers, birth dates, addresses, and the numbers of some driver's licenses. Additionally, credit cards for thousands of people were exposed, as was "personal identifying information" on an estimated 182,000 customers involved in credit report disputes.

Anyone who has ever had a credit card or a loan, whether it was a mortgage, auto or unsecured, has the potential to be affected by this data breach. If the creditor you owed reported your payment history to Equifax, chances are, your information may have been exposed. Most creditors report to at least one, if not all, of the three major credit reporting bureaus: Equifax, Experian or Trans Union. Old South reports loan payment history to Equifax and Trans Union.

At the time of the announcement, Equifax had this site <http://www.equifaxsecurity2017.com> for consumers to determine whether or not their data had been exposed. A visit to the site as of late September indicates they are experiencing difficulties with the TrustedID site and that it may be periodically unavailable. In the mean time we have a few steps you may want to consider taking if you believe your information has been compromised.

Because your Social Security number was possibly exposed...

- ▶ Consider whether you want to sign up for the free credit monitoring services that Equifax is offering. Thieves may wait until the expiration of the free service and use your information then.
- ▶ Get your free credit reports from annualcreditreport.com, and check for any accounts you don't recognize. You can order a free report from each of the three credit bureaus once a year. A best practice is to order one from each bureau at staggered times of the year so that you can keep an eye on your report across a few months rather than once a year.
- ▶ Consider placing a [credit freeze](#). A credit freeze makes it harder for someone to open a new account in your name.
 - If you place a freeze, you'll have to lift the freeze before you apply for a new credit card or cell phone - or any service that requires a credit check.
 - If you decide not to place a credit freeze, at least consider [placing a fraud alert](#).
- ▶ Try to file your taxes early - before a scammer can. Tax Identity Theft happens when someone uses your Social Security number to get a tax refund or a job. Respond right away to letters from the IRS.
- ▶ Don't believe anyone who calls and says you'll be arrested unless you pay for taxes or debt - even if they have part or all of your Social Security number, or they say they're from the IRS. The IRS does not call, they send written notices.

Equifax plans to notify people whose credit card information was exposed. If you receive a notice...

- ▶ Contact your financial institution or credit card company to cancel your card and request a new one.
- ▶ Review your transactions regularly. Make sure no one misused your card. If you find fraudulent charges, call the fraud department and get them removed.
- ▶ If you have automatic payments set up, update them with your new card number.

Going forward, it's important to monitor your credit card and bank accounts closely. If you find charges you don't recognize, be sure to report them at IdentityTheft.gov.



Drive away with a better rate on your **Vehicle Loan**

If you're in the market for new wheels, the credit union can help you drive away with a better rate - even if the dealer appears to be offering an awesome deal. That's because this old adage applies: "What the big print promises, the little print taketh away." The splashy headline doesn't tell the whole story. "Not all buyers will qualify" means the

advertised interest rate is available only to those with pristine credit. If you have any blemishes on your credit, you'll likely pay a higher rate. "Available on select models" means the deal is valid for only a few vehicles - ones that may not meet your needs. Plus, with a pre-approved loan from the credit union you are in a much better bargaining position because you can shop like a cash buyer, getting the vehicle you want to buy, not the one the dealer wants to sell you. So before you set foot on the lot, contact the credit union so we can put you in the driver's seat.

Daylight Saving

Time Ends Sunday, November 5, 2017

Electronic Funds Transfers Making Speedy Payments Now

On *September 15*, the second phase of Same-Day ACH was put into effect by the National Automated Clearing House Association. What does this mean for you, the consumer?

If you have any electronic transactions processing through your account such as bill payments, web-based transactions, or checks that are converted to pay electronically, you might actually see those funds leave your account on the same day as you authorize the payment. In other words, there will be almost zero "float" time until the funds clear or attempt to clear your account.

In order to **avoid any fees for NSF items** be sure to have the funds in your account **before** you authorize payment.

In addition, if you deposit a check to cover payments out of your account, ask the teller if there will be a hold placed on the deposit. Checks must be sent for collection and the CU has the right to place those funds in your account on hold, so that deposit may not be instantly available for credit to your account. You should be informed of the hold at the time of the deposit. Always ask if in doubt.

Quick-Reference ID Theft Contact List

Credit Reporting Agencies	Phone	Website
Equifax	800-525-6285	www.equifax.com
Experian	888-397-3742	www.experian.com
TransUnion	888-909-8872	www.transunion.com
Federal Government		
Federal Trade Commission	877-438-4338	www.ftc.gov/complaint
Internal Revenue Service	800-908-4490	www.irs.gov/identitytheft
Social Security Admin.	800-269-0271	www.socialsecurity.gov
US Dept of State	877-487-2778	www.travel.state.gov/passport
Legal		
MS State Attorney General	601-359-3680	www.ago.state.ms.us
LA State Attorney General	225-326-6000	www.ago.state.la.us
Other		
Free Annual Credit Reports	877-322-8228	www.annualcreditreport.com
ChexSystems	800-428-9623	www.consumerdebt.com
TeleCheck Services	800-710-9898	www.firstdata.com/telecheck
Certegy	800-437-5120	www.askcertegy.com
Opt Out	888-567-8688	www.optoutprescreen.com



We're ready to roll out some Christmas Loans*

October 1—December 31
\$1,000 for 10 months @ 10%



*for qualified borrowers

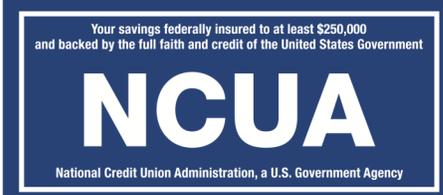
THANK YOU

For Being A Credit Union Member



AMERICA'S CREDIT UNIONS®

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DIVIDENDS

	As of 09/30/2017	
	APR	APY
Christmas Club	0.00%	0.00%
\$500-\$3,499	0.10%	0.10%
\$3,500-\$6,499	0.15%	0.15%
\$6,500-\$9,999	0.25%	0.25%
\$10,000 & over	0.35%	0.35%
IRAs	0.45%	0.45%