



CYBER SECURITY & YOU

SEPTEMBER 2019

IDENTITY THEFT

If you think accounts can only be hacked through your computer, think again. With all the information floating around the Internet these days, how easy is it to impersonate someone over the phone? Make certain you are properly vetting people prior to receiving phone calls or meeting members. Familiarize yourself with your department's requirements for establishing a person's identity before discussing any personal information.

NOT ALL THREATS COME FROM MALWARE

There are many instances where users' accounts are compromised due to the availability of personal information across the Internet. Much of this comes through social media, but not all. Even people with no social media presence have helpful friends that tag them in pictures and divulge the names of their children, birth dates, pets, and interests. All of this data makes it easier for bad guys to guess passwords or security questions in order to compromise accounts.

When you have a moment, take a second to search for yourself or your spouse. Use first and last name in quotes and add a location such as "Baton Rouge." You may be surprised what you find. Use

QUICK TIP

Clean Desk Policy - This is more common sense, but is often overlooked. Your desk and office space should be free of important paperwork for each guest at your desk.

Private data can be stolen by simply picking up paperwork or even photographing information containing names, addresses, Social Security numbers, passwords, or any protected data visible during a routine appointment.

this information as a guideline of what should never be included in creating your passwords.

Many social media users are smart enough to restrict their information to their friends, but this is deceiving. Your friends often share your information and the social networks sell your information to companies (do you remember Cambridge Analytica Ltd?).

Another vector often used comes from email, but are either scams or hoaxes. Most everyone remembers that Nigerian Prince that wanted to give you millions of dollars. There are also scams that offer to help people after disasters, but end up only helping those pocketing your cash.

HOW IMPORTANT IS THE CLEAN DESK POLICY?

Here are some examples of people that did not heed the policy when national television was coming to their office.

