



security awareness

 INFO TO KNOW

The Internet is evolving from a network to which individuals connect into a network that connects everything to the individual. We are quickly advancing into a world where there is an app for everything. These rapid technological advances – like the Internet of Things – can yield tremendous benefits. Cybersecurity is fundamental to realizing the promise of new and expanded technologies. And more is still to come as smart cities, connected healthcare devices, digitized records and smart cars and homes are fast becoming our new reality. As our digital world expands, creating these cutting-edge technologies in a safe and secure way – along with building a workforce to maintain the infrastructure of our connected world – is essential.



National Cyber Security Awareness Month

Our Continuously Connected Lives: What's Your "Appitude"?

That smartphone in your pocket – or your tablet or laptop – contains significant information about you and your friends and family – contact numbers, photos, location and more. Your mobile devices need to be protected. Take the following security precautions and enjoy the conveniences of technology with peace of mind while you are on the go.

Keep a Clean Machine

Keep security software current on all devices that connect to the Internet: Having the most up-to-date mobile security software, web browser, operating system and apps is the best defense against viruses, malware and other online threats.

Delete when done: Many of us download apps for specific purposes, such as planning a vacation, and no longer need them afterwards, or we may have previously downloaded apps that are longer useful or interesting to us. It's a good security practice to delete all apps you no longer use.

Protect Your Personal Information

Secure your devices: Use strong passwords, passcodes or other features such as touch identification to lock your devices. Securing your device can help protect your information if your device is lost or stolen and keep prying eyes out.

Mobile Parental Controls

Mobile phone service providers have different options for controlling privacy and usage, filtering content and location and monitoring settings.

Usage controls: Most companies will allow parents to turn off features, such as downloading videos or images, texting, and accessing the Internet. These controls can also be used to limit the number of calls or texts and set time restrictions.

Content filtering: These controls can block certain websites to allow for safer mobile browsing on the Internet. Some filters can also limit videos and other multimedia.

Location and monitoring settings: These controls allow parents to track their child's whereabouts using GPS systems that are built into the phone.

Personal information is like money – Value it. Protect it.: Information about you, such as the games you like to play, what you search for online and where you shop and live, has value – just like money. Be thoughtful about who gets that information and how it's collected through apps and websites.

Own your online presence: Use security and privacy settings on websites and apps to manage what is shared about you and who sees it.

Now you see me, now you don't: Some stores and other locations look for devices with WiFi or Bluetooth turned on to track your movements while you are within range. Disable WiFi and Bluetooth when not in use.

Connect with Care

Get savvy about WiFi hotspots: Public wireless networks and hotspots are not secure, which means that anyone could potentially see what you are doing on your laptop or smartphone while you are connected to them. Limit what you do on public WiFi, and avoid logging in to key accounts like email and financial services. Consider using a virtual private network (VPN) or a personal/mobile hotspot if you need a more secure connection.

Help the authorities fight cybercrime:

Report stolen finances, identities and cybercrime to:

<http://www.ic3.gov> (the Internet Crime Complaint Center)

<http://www.onguardonline.gov/file-complaint> (the FTC).



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