STAY SAFE DURING TAX TIME

Tax season is a prime time for online scams. With the April 18th filing deadline just two months away, cyber criminals are looking to lift your personal information to steal your refund money or Steal your identity

DON'T BE A VICTIM:

WATCH OUT FOR TAX SEASON TRICKS

Phishing Scams: cyber criminals will try to get you to do something, like click on a link or respond to an email, so they can steal your personal information.

Do not open emails, texts, or social media posts from people that you don't know. Opening these links can cause malware-viruses, spyware to be installed on your computer.

Imposters claiming to be an I.R.S. agent: The IRS will never email or call you demanding immediate payment without first having mailed out a bill nor will they ask you for a debit or credit card information over the phone or email.

Tax Preparer Fraud: A legit tax preparer will always sign the tax forms with their preparer tax ID number

This public service message was brought to you by the Bloomfield Community Policing Unit.

STAY CYBER SAFE

Keep all computers clean: Keep all software on devices that are connected to the internet updated.

GET TWO STEPS AHEAD: Turn on a two-step verification process. Many financial institutions offer this security step for free.

MAKE A STRONG PASSWORD: Make a longer password using upper and lower case letters and numbers and symbols

WIFI HOT SPOTS: Public Wi-Fi hot spots are not secure. Avoid using public Wi-Fi when filing highly personal information

TAKE OUT THE TRASH: If you receive any email that appears strange or from an unknown source delete it immediately and clean out your trash file

FILE YOUR TAX FORMS ON A SECURE HTTPS SITES ONLY