

National Cyber Security Awareness Month October 2017

Week 1: Simple Steps to Online Safety

October is National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM), and the Vermont Intelligence Center and Vermont Department of Public Safety is joining with the Stop.Think.Connect.™ Campaign and its partners across the country to highlight the importance of cybersecurity and online safety.

You don't have to be a computer expert to understand the basics of cybersecurity. Even small actions can make a huge difference in keeping you safe online. As cyber crimes like scams, frauds, identity theft, and network breaches continue to increase, it's more important than ever to know how to protect yourself in the cyber world.

Physical safety is second nature to us—we don't think twice before locking our doors, looking both ways before crossing the street, and avoiding dangerous situations. These simple actions keep us safe from physical threats, and we should be just as vigilant about cyber threats.

It's easier than you think to practice good cybersecurity everyday!

Take these simple steps towards greater cybersecurity:

Set strong passwords: Make them long and complex, change them regularly, and don't share them with anyone.

Secure your most sensitive accounts: When it is available, use multi-factor authentication to keep your accounts more secure.

Treat personal information like money: Information about you, such as your purchase history and location, has value, so be cautious about how your information is collected by apps and websites.

Keep a clean machine: Regularly update the software on your Internet-connected devices, including PCs, smartphones, and tablets, to reduce the risk of infection from malware.

Limit what you share: Control and limit who can see your information online by checking the privacy and security settings on your accounts and apps.

Don't believe everything you read: Be cautious about what you receive or read online—if it sounds too good to be true, then it probably is.

When in doubt, throw it out. If you see a suspicious link in an email, tweet, social media post, or online advertising, it's best to delete it or, if appropriate, mark it as junk.

Click [here](#) to read more information on how you can apply these simple steps.

Be part of #CyberAware Month this October. Get involved in discussions on Social Media using the hashtag #CyberAware

CRIME
ALLOWED
ALARM
ALERT
SPAM
IDENTITY
SECURITY
LOCKED
MALWARE
CYBER ATTACK
DENIED
VIRUS
PHISHING
HACKED

#CYBERAWARE

TROJAN
USER DATA
CRACK
HACK
MALWARE
PASSWORD
BUG
ALARM
SPAM
VIRUS
ERROR
ALLOWED

Click on the image below for a video detailing the importance of strong passwords!



Has your organization been affected by a cyber incident? Need Help?

To report your cyber incident and to access other resources contact:

dps.cyberhelp@vermont.gov Or call: 802.872.6184



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