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Identity Theft - !!One of the fastest-growing crimes in America!!

Avoid giving out account numbers to unsolicited callers or orally where others may be listening and use **Secure Credit Card Numbers**

Encrypt sensitive computer files - use innocuous file and folder names. (Helps with the grand-kids) Use long passwords that would fail a spell check and are mixed with upper case and numbers. Use different passwords for truly sensitive data vs. that used on un-trusted Internet sites

Shredder's \$10 - Destroy pre-approved credit card offers, bank or brokerage statements, old pay stubs and tax records, credit card receipts, utility bills (which could be used to obtain a credit report), personal correspondence (which could be used to corroborate my identity), cancelled checks, expired credit cards

Check major credit bureaus - Equifax, Experian, and Trans Union

Know the billing cycle credit cards and utility bills & review bank and/or brokerage account statements

Don't put outgoing mail in home mailbox

Place postcards with sensitive information in envelopes

Blank out bank & credit card & account number on receipts for expense reimbursement

Don't put driver license or SSN's on checks

Avoid Internet "profiles" (rebates, contests, online resume) -use incorrect data if necessary

Disposable Email address's

Disposable Phone numbers

Innoport.com or Local Phone company