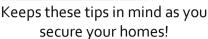# CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

October is National Cyber Security Awareness Month. Keep an eye out each week for tips on how to stay safe from Cyber Crime!

CYBER SECURITY AT HOME

Keeps these tips in mind as you secure your homes!

ONLINE SHOPPING

RESEARCH
Before shopping at a new site, do your research. Check for any positive or negative reviews from other customers.

CLICK CAREFULLY
Be wary of clicking on links within emails. Cyber traps could be hidden in promotional emails that seem like they're from your favorite online shops. Always type in the web address of the site directly into your browser check for new coupons and deals.

SHOP SECURELY
Before you shop, be sure to check the web address for a icon lock or 'https://' to ensure there are extra measures in place to secure your information.

ONLINE PRIVACY TIPS FOR PARENTS

Learn how you can help to keep your children safe on and offline

Teach your children that **what they post online cannot be taken back.** Help them to consider with they're posting before it's sent.

Openly discuss the public nature of the internet with your children at an early age. Make sure they understand **how to use and adjust the privacy settings** for their favorite online games, apps and platforms.

Protect the personal information about your kids such as the games they like to play and their online searches. Teach your children to **be selective about what they share with apps and websites.**

SECURING YOUR HOME NETWORK

Most homes contain devices that are constantly connected to the internet which is why having a protected home network is so important!

CHANGE DEFAULTS
Your home router will come with a default name (SSID or ESSID) and password. Be sure to change these immediately. And remember a strong password is a phrase that includes numbers, letters and symbols!

USE A FIREWALL
Firewalls protect your devices by keeping cyber criminals and hackers out. Your operating system or antivirus software will most likely come with a firewall but make sure you have them on.

WEIGH YOUR SECURITY OPTIONS
For your router's level of security, the WPA2 or WPA options are more secure than the WEP option but not completely free of vulnerabilities. Be sure to keep your machine up to date with the most current security patches which will help to protect you against new threats. If you're unsure of your level of security, contact the vendor of your operating system.

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