



How to Protect Your Finances from

“PHISHING”

As technology continues to grow and evolve, so do the ways in which criminals target victims. One of the ways these criminals try to hack into personal information is through phishing.

“Phishing” is when hackers and cyber thieves try to trick people into submitting their personal, financial, or password data by creating fake versions of existing websites or sending emails that look like they are coming from a legitimate bank, business, or government agency. Phishing is one of the most insidious threats to your financial security, but you can avoid falling prey to it if you follow a few common-sense rules!

Remember This:

Legitimate banks, retailers, agencies, and institutions should never ask for your personal information – like passwords, PINs, and Social Security Numbers – via email. If you receive a message from anyone asking for this info, assume it is a scam.

Furthermore, as a general rule, do not reply to any message, electronic or otherwise, that requests your personal information.

Don’t Do This:

Don’t click on a link in an email to connect to a website unless it is from a source you know is real and trustworthy, like a family member. Instead, hover your mouse over the link to verify the address or search for the site on Google. And NEVER click on an attachment you are not expecting!

The same is true for any links you see on social media, like Facebook.

Always Do This:

Always double-check the URL of any site you intend to visit. Some thieves set up sites with URLs that look very similar to a real site. For example, “amzon.com” instead of “amazon” or “facebok.com” instead of “facebook.”

Also, check to see if sites have a symbol of a lock next to their URL or begin with the letters https (instead of merely http). Both indicate the site has been verified as secure.

Watch Out for This:

Phishing emails and websites may look legitimate at first glance, but the warning signs often stick out upon closer inspection. In particular, watch out for misspelled words, broken English, and threats.

Variations on “If you don’t comply” is a particularly common phrase.

Losing money or possessions to scams and fraud can be devastating; make sure you are following these practical steps for staying vigilant and aware!

Wagner Wealth Management has offices in Greenville, Anderson, and Oconee counties. Call us at 864-236-4706 or visit www.wagnerwealthmanagement.com to learn more about our firm.

Securities are offered through Arkadios Capital LLC (Member FINRA and SIPC). Past performance does not guarantee or is indicative of future results. This summary of statistics, price, and quotes has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable but is not necessarily complete and cannot be guaranteed. All securities may lose value, may not be insured by any federal agency and are subject to availability and price changes. Market risk is a consideration if sold prior to maturity. Information and opinions herein are for general informational use only and subject to change without notice.
Sources: Bill Good Marketing