

FRAUD ALERT!

Don't Get Caught Phishing!

Attempts to steal your sensitive information are called "phishing," and it is very prevalent. The sender goes "fishing" for your information by setting up a phony website at which you are asked to supply such information as account numbers, passwords, pin numbers, Social Security Numbers, etc. Phishing is attempted by e-mail and telephone.

The Bucks County Crimes Against Older Adults Task Force is especially concerned about two recent phishing scams:

- 1) E-mails purportedly from amazon.com, e-Bay, PayPal, etc. list an item you ordered. The e-mail further provides the amount being charged to your credit card, as well as an opportunity to cancel on a supplied link or form if you did not place the order. This scam has been very lucrative as victims believed someone had used their information to order an item and they simply wanted to stop it - only in canceling the order, did they become victimized!
- 2) The Social Security Administration has issued a special alert about an e-mail that discusses proposed SSA benefits increases for 2007. The e-mail threatens the suspension of Social Security benefits if personal information is not immediately provided on the supplied phony web link. To review the SSA alert, go to: www.socialsecurity.gov and click on the alert "Public warned about E-mail scam linked to cost-of-living update."

To protect yourself:

- Don't panic. The sender wants you to respond without thinking.
- Never respond to e-mails or callers asking you to submit personal data.
- Never give out checking account information, Social Security number or any other personal identifying information to strangers who call you at home or contact them by letter or over the internet.

For more information or to report a scam- contact any one of the Task Force members:

**BUCKS COUNTY CRIMES AGAINST OLDER ADULTS TASK FORCE-
FIGHTING ABUSE, NEGLECT, AND EXPLOITATION OF OLDER ADULTS IN BUCKS COUNTY**

Bucks County District Attorney's Office

215-348-6344

Bucks County Consumer Protection

215-348-6060

Bucks County Register of Wills

215-348-6265

Bucks County Area Agency on Aging

215-348-0510

Network of Victim Assistance

1-800-675-6900

Bucks County Coroner

215-348-3852