Password Protection

Protecting personal data online

Digital Privacy

Every time you use your phone, computer, or tablet you are sharing little bits of your private life. Corporations and governments collect this personal information to profile, target, or scam you.

Digital privacy means controlling who sees that information, and stopping scammers, advertisers, and strangers from using it without your consent.

Passwords

Passwords are the first step towards digital privacy. It is important to follow digital safety guidelines when you create and store each one of your passwords.

Avoid reusing passwords: Create unique passwords; especially for important accounts. If one is stolen or leaked, the rest stay safe. When creating a password, it should be long, unique, and saved in a safe space.

Password storage: It is difficult to keep track of passwords. Find a system for password storage that is secure and works best for you.

Keeping a physical record of all of your passwords is useful but can have drawbacks. If you opt to write your passwords down, store the list in a secure location.

Online password managers are popular services that save all your passwords in one place and can autofill your account information for websites. Some browsers may have this feature, but may still be insecure. **Bitwarden.com** is a free service that is open source and known to be secure.

Watch out for scams: Never share your password by email, text, or over the phone. No real company will ever ask you to do this. Always verify you are logging on to an official website before entering your password. Urgent language such as *Your account is in trouble!* is a common sign of a scam.