

WESTFIELD BANK – PROTECTING YOU AND YOUR MONEY

SECURITY AND FRAUD INFORMATIONAL SERIES:

CYBER FRAUD

In this first edition of our new security and fraud informational series on Protecting You and Your Money, we will explore the topic of Cyber Fraud and learn What it is, How does it happen and most importantly, How do you protect yourself and your company...



What it is:

- Commonly referred to as “online account takeover”.
- Criminals “take over” your online banking sessions in an attempt to steal your money.

How does it happen:

- Phishing – wide spread “net” email.
- Drive by download – your computer becomes infected just by visiting a website which contains malicious code. Cybercriminals search the Internet looking for vulnerable web servers that can be hacked.
- Fake Anti-Virus software – Alarms user with false infection warning to trick them into downloading malware.
- Fake websites – fraudsters con users into surrendering passwords and other private info by creating fake websites that mimic a legitimate log-on screen.
- Bank impersonations by phone or text – requesting security credentials which often occurs after an earlier phishing e-mail.

How do you protect yourself and your company:

- Review your accounts daily.
- Never click on links or open emails from unknown sources.
- Create strong passwords, memorize them and do not share them with anyone.
- Install anti-virus and anti-spyware software on your computer and keep it up to date.
- Do not use unsecured networks (Internet cafes, public wi-fi hotspots at the airport or hotels, etc.) when entering personal information.
- Business customers should manage online account access levels carefully, segregate employee duties and require dual control.
- Know what your employees are doing with their workstations and limit access to sites with high potential for fraud such as social networking, shopping, online gaming etc.

If you think your account information has been compromised, please contact Westfield Bank immediately at 1-413-568-1911.