

# Your personal information is too valuable

**Don't Give It Away**

- **Guard your personal information.**  
Make sure you know where and how it will be used.
- **Be stingy with your Social Security number.**  
Don't give it out just because someone asks for it.
- **Shred financial documents you no longer need.**  
Use a cross-cut shredder so documents cannot be pasted back together.
- **Ignore e-mails asking for information.**  
Legitimate companies don't verify information through e-mails.
- **Regularly check your credit file for signs of fraud.**  
It's free to see your credit report three times a year.
- **Put Identity Theft on ice.**  
With a "Security Freeze," you can block unauthorized access to your credit file.

**Don't make Identity Theft easier than it already is**

A message from the New York State Consumer Protection Board  
1-800-697-1220    [www.nysconsumer.gov](http://www.nysconsumer.gov)  
We are on your side