

Helpful Websites

The Better Business Bureau

- www.bbb.org

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC)

- www.consumer.ftc.gov
- www.identitytheft.gov

The Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force

- www.stopfraud.gov

Internal Revenue Service

- www.irs.gov/individuals/identity-protection

The Internet Crime Complaint Center

- www.ic3.gov

National Cyber Security Alliance

- www.staysafeonline.org

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

- www.dhs.gov
- www.us-cert.gov
- dhs.gov/stopthinkconnect

U.S. Government's Online Safety Site

- www.onguardonline.gov



**Sheridan Police
Department**



Sheridan Police Department

45 W 12th St
Sheridan, WY 82801
Phone: 307-672-2413
Fax: 307-674-6863
www.sheridanpolice.com

Scams and Identity Theft

**SCAM
ALERT!**

Tel: 307-672-2413
www.sheridanpolice.com

Protect Yourself Against Scams

Scam artists may attempt to contact you by phone, postal mail, or email. Here are some tips for avoiding scam artists:

1. Stay aware of current scams. Watch or read the news frequently.
2. Before giving out your personal information, make sure that you know who you are dealing with.
3. Do not reply to messages asking for your personal information whether by phone or email.
4. Do not call phone numbers or click on links contained in messages asking for personal information.
5. Do not send money or account information in reply to a notice that you have won a prize or lottery.
6. Give only to established charities. Avoid charities that suddenly pop-up after major disasters.
7. Don't fall for pressure tactics.
8. Beware of "imposter" scams. The scammer will pretend to be someone close to you in need of money. An example would be someone claiming your grandchild is in jail and needs bond money.
9. Beware of government agencies calling you to settle a debt and threatening you with arrest. Government agencies such as the IRS and Social Security will not contact you by phone for debt settlement.
10. Anytime someone requests that you purchase a gift card to pay a debt, it is a **scam!**
11. Don't answer phone calls from numbers that you don't recognize.

Give us a call if you suspect a scam or have any questions or concerns



Common Scams

- IRS claiming you owe back taxes.
- Social Security claiming your social security number has been compromised.
- MDU threatening to shut off services for overdue bills.
- Companies wanting access to your computer in order to fix a "problem".
- Receiving a check in the mail with a request that you cash it and send part of the money back.
- Request to pay debt with pre filled visa or mastercards. This includes: Google Play, itunes and Walmart cards.