

## Cyber Security Awareness Day



October is Cyber Security Awareness Month. The Governor encourages all citizens to learn about cyber security and put that knowledge into practice in their homes, schools, workplaces, and businesses.

The Governor's Office of Administration

Office for Information Technology

Information Security Division

**Email:**  
[ra-ciso@state.pa.us](mailto:ra-ciso@state.pa.us)

**Web:**  
<http://cybersecurity.state.pa.us>



## Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Cyber Security Tips  
for Pennsylvania Citizens



**Aiming to keep the  
Commonwealth Safe  
On-line**

<http://cybersecurity.state.pa.us>

## Cyber Security Tips for Pennsylvania Citizens



### Six Tips for Staying Safer Online

#### 1. Take extra steps to help keep kids safe online.

Pay attention to what kids do and whom they meet online. Consider a rule that no child reveals personal information (including photos) without permission. Warn kids never to meet Internet "friends" in person. For more information on how to keep kids safe online, including a multitude of links for kids and Parents, visit <http://cybersecurity.state.pa.us> or some of the other links provided in this pamphlet

#### 2. Beef up your computer's defenses and keep them up to date.

Use a firewall. Keep Microsoft Windows and Microsoft Office programs up to date with security updates. Install anti-virus software. Detect, remove, and block spyware with a legitimate Spyware removal utility.

#### 3. Use strong passwords, protect them, and change them regularly.

Strong passwords have at least eight characters. Include letters, numbers, and symbols that are easy for you to remember but tough for others to guess.

#### 4. Think first. Click later.

Even if you know the sender, consider carefully whether you really want to an open e-mail or instant message attachment. Be wary of clicking links in e-mail, instant messages, or pop-ups.

#### 5. Be protective of your personal information.

Never provide sensitive personal information in an e-mail, instant message, or pop-up window. Treat your Social Security number with special care. Only share your primary e-mail address with those you know.

#### 6. Make sure Web sites protect your personal information.

Read the privacy statement before you give out any personal information or download software. Check for signs that the Web site protects sensitive data. Look for https in the Web address and for a padlock or an unbroken key in the lower right corner of the Web page. Double-click the padlock or key to ensure that the "Issued by" name on the security certificate matches the name in the address bar.



#### **Helpful Security Awareness Links:**

[http://www.us-cert.gov/reading\\_room/HomeComputerSecurity/](http://www.us-cert.gov/reading_room/HomeComputerSecurity/)

<http://www.spywareguide.com/>

<http://onguardonline.gov/index.html>

<http://www.staysafeonline.info/>