



COVID-19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019



WARNING

Fake websites, emails, texts, and social media posts are popping up as a ruse to take your money and get your personal information.

BEWARE

Watch out for fake claims, deals and websites offering home testing kits, medical supplies, vaccines and cures (there currently are none).

CORONAVIRUS SCAMS

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the United States, scammers have seized the opportunity to prey on customers.

- Do not respond to calls or texts from unknown numbers, or any others that appear suspicious. Remember scammers often spoof phone numbers to trick you into answering or responding. Government agencies will never call you to ask for personal information or money.
- Never share your personal or financial information via email, text messages, or over the phone.
- Be cautious if you're being pressured to share any information or make a payment immediately.
- Do not click any links or open attachments in an email which may contain malware to steal your personal information.
- Scammers are fraudulently soliciting donations for non-existent charities. If someone wants a donation in cash, by a gift card, or by wiring money, **DO NOT DO IT.**

STIMULUS CHECK SCAMS

For most Americans, the stimulus checks will be directly deposited into their bank account. But for those who have traditionally received tax refunds through the mail, their check will come through the mail.

Here are some tips to help protect you against scammers:

- The IRS will never call you to ask you to "verify" your payment details. Do not give your bank account information to anyone, even if the caller says it's necessary to receive your check.
- Hang-up on robocalls. Do not press any numbers or engage in a conversation.
- If you get texts or emails claiming you can get your money faster by sending personal information or clicking on links, delete those messages. **Don't click on any links.**

Remember, most people don't need to do anything! As long as you filed your 2018 and/or 2019 taxes, the government has your information to send the money by direct deposit. If you didn't file, contact the IRS directly.

See irs.gov/coronavirus for more information.