

January 2010

# ID Theft

## Facts

\* Every year, nearly 7 million people across the nation become victims of identity theft.

\* Identity theft in Michigan is greater than the national average for credit card, telephone, cell phone and utility fraud.

\* Most victims of identity theft in Michigan are more than 40 years old

\* Identity theft victims can be living or deceased

\* Many identity theft victims fail to notify the proper authorities and fail to file formal complaints

## Recommendations

\* Never give out your social security number, driver's license, any blank or credit account numbers or other identifying information unless you know the person or organization or you initiated the contact

\* Treat checkbooks, ATM card, credit cards and credit card offers as if they're cash-protect them!

\* Before discarding you should shred personal information such as receipts, insurance forms, bank and credit card statements and other offers.

\* Notify financial institutions and credit card companies before relocating to a new home or care facility

\* Have your mail held when going on vacation or into the hospital

\* Cancel unneeded credit cards

\* Say no to credit card offers by calling 1-888-5-OPT-OUT (567-8688)

\* Keep a list of customer service telephone numbers for current accounts in case you need to report a credit card stolen or ID theft

**SERVICE-PRIDE-INTEGRITY**



**GARDEN CITY POLICE**  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**CITY DEPARTMENT  
PHONE NUMBERS**

**EMERGENCY- 911**

**POLICE 793-1700**

**DETECTIVE BUREAU 793-1710**

**CITY HALL 793-1600**

**21ST DIST. COURT 793-1680**

**BUILDING DEPT. 793-1650**

**CITY CLERK 793-1620**

**LIBRARY 793-1830**

**MAPLEWOOD CTR. 793-1850**

**PARKS & REC. 793-1880**

# Credit Card Safety Tips

\* Only give your credit card account number to make a purchase or reservation you have initiated. And never give this information over a cellular phone.

\* Never give your credit card to someone else to use on your behalf.

\* Watch your credit card after giving it to store clerk to protect against extra imprints being made.

\* Save all receipts, and compare them to your monthly bill. Immediately report any discrepancies.

\* Keep a master list in a secure place at home with the account numbers and phone numbers for reporting stolen or lost cards.

\* Carry your credit cards separate from your wallet.

\* Always report lost or stolen cards to the issuing company immediately.

\* This limits any unauthorized use of your card and permits the company to begin the process of issuing a new card.

\* Destroy any carbons. Do not discard into trash can at the purchase counter. Keep charge slips in a safe place.

## Remember....

Neighborhood Watch meetings are scheduled to begin in the spring. As a reminder, the meetings are still held at the

Community Center on the first Tuesday of the following months:

**MARCH**  
**MAY**

**OCTOBER**  
**DECEMBER**

I will look forward to seeing you there. Thank you.  
Det./Sgt. Brian Aure'

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BLOCK / CITY CRIME STATS

### December Crime Statistics - Reported

Arson 0	Robbery 1
Breaking & Entering 11	Public Peace 9
Larceny 23	Fraud 5
Sexual Assault 1	Drug Violations 3
Assaults 31	Property Damage 17
Murder 0	Stolen Vehicles 9

The numbers listed are statistics for the entire city during the month listed