

AARP's Fraud Watch Network can help you spot and avoid scams. Sign up for free "Watchdog Alerts", review our scam-tracking map, or call our toll-free helpline, 877-908-3360 if you or a loved one suspect you've been a victim.



# Fraud Watch Newsletter



**Receiving a call from an unknown number may seem harmless**, but it could be the start of a scam. Here are three tips to protect yourself from unknown callers. First, Let it ring. The easiest thing to do is not answer the call. If it is important, the caller will leave a message or call back again. Let the caller speak first. Most scammers use an auto dialer – an automated system that calls a bunch of random numbers at the same time and connects to a live person when someone answers the phone. That brief pause or delay before the caller speaks is a red flag that the call could be a scam. Block suspicious calls. Check with your service provider to learn about options to block spam and scam calls.



**With temperatures dropping in many states**, scammers are turning up the heat on their deceptive tactics. Each winter, criminals pose as utility company representatives, claiming a missed payment and threatening to shut off service unless payment is immediate.

If you get a surprise call from the "utility company" threatening to shut off your service, hang up the phone. The goal of these scammers is to create a sense of panic, making it harder to think logically and verify their claims. Their hope is that we stay in that state of panic long enough to complete a payment.

To verify the status of your utility payments, contact your provider using the customer service number on a recent bill (or log into their website or app if that's an option). Chances are you will find out your payments are up to date.

Call The Wyoming Senior Medicare Patrol for assistance with potential Medicare fraud or abuse at 1-800-856-4398

## Information and resources to help you with...

- **Find resources and information around VA benefits, health, caregiving, fraud and employment for retired and active-duty military and their families by going to [aarp.org/veterans](http://aarp.org/veterans) or calling our toll-free nationwide phone number 1-888-OUR-AARP (1-888-687-2277).**
- **Family caregiving:** Call the Caregiving Resource Center for a free Prepare to Care Guide (1-877-333-5885).
- **Fraud and scams:** Call the AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline toll-free (1-877-908-3360).

**CyberWyoming Alliance**  
Please report your scams to:  
[phishing@cyberwyoming.org](mailto:phishing@cyberwyoming.org)  
307-223-1265

**ALLIANCE**  
AWARENESS • EDUCATION • OUTREACH

CyberWyoming Alliance's goal is for Wyoming to be the most cyber-secure state in the nation. To do this, we know that cybersecurity efforts have to be local, trusted, and grassroots in nature.

***If abuse, neglect, abandonment, intimidation or financial exploitation of an older adult is occurring, report it to Adult Protective Services.***

**Basics of what DFS/APS can do:**

- If an abuse/neglect case is reported and opened, an APS Caseworker will respond within 24-72 hours, depending on immediate danger or impending harm.
- APS is mandated by statute to notify law enforcement.
- An APS Caseworker will interview the vulnerable adult to determine the facts of the situation.
- APS works with the vulnerable adult regarding availability of community services he/she is agreeable to receive in order to ensure his/her safety.

**Basics of what DFS/APS cannot do:**

- APS cannot force anyone to accept help, adults have the right to refuse.
- APS cannot force anyone to reside in a nursing home, APS is committed to keeping vulnerable adults as safe as possible, in their own homes.

**How to make a report:**

Call (307)777-7564 or click on [dfs.wyo.gov/about/contact-us/](http://dfs.wyo.gov/about/contact-us/)  
 This is a link with contact information to each community in Wyoming that has a DFS office. APS abuse/neglect reports can also be made by contacting law enforcement in the community where the abuse is taking place.



**WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES**

*Safe at home • Giving families opportunities for success • Supporting the people who support the families*

# WYOMING FOOD BANK OF THE ROCKIES®



**FIGHTING HUNGER. FEEDING HOPE.**  
[WyomingFoodBank.org](http://WyomingFoodBank.org)



## Mobile Food Pantries Coming To Your Area:

2/1- RAWLINS TRACTOR SUPPLY	1-2PM
2/4 - LYMAN BRIDGER VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH	4-5 PM
2/5 - LUSK SENIOR CENTER	1-2PM
2/5 - WORLAND FAIRGROUNDS	4-5PM
2/6 - PINEDALE RENDEZVOUS POINT	11AM -NOON
2/7- ROCK RIVER FIRE HALL	10:30 -11:30 AM
2/8- BASIN/GREYBULL BASIN FAIRGROUNDS	10 - 11AM
2/13 - MOORCROFT OLD SCHOOL BUILDING	11AM- NOON
2/15- GUERNSEY TOWN HALL	12PM-1PM
2/15- KAYCEE HAROLD JARRAD PARK	9AM- 10AM
2/15 - ROCK SPRINGS WHITE MOUNTAIN MALL	1-2PM
2/18 - BUFFALO JOHNSON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS	NOON- 1PM
2/20 - NEWCASTLE WESTON FAIRGROUNDS	11 AM -NOON
2/21 - WRIGHT MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING	1-2 PM
2/24 - FORT WASHAKIE POWWOW GROUNDS	NOON- 1 PM
2/24- ARAPAHO SCHOOL	NOON- 1 PM
2/27 - SHERIDAN FAIRGROUNDS	9- 10 AM