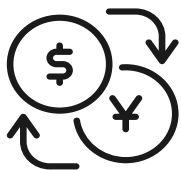


AARP's Fraud Watch Network can help you spot and avoid scams. Sign up for free "Watchdog Alerts", review our scam-tracking map, or call our toll-free helpline, 877-908-3360 if you or a loved one suspect you've been a victim.



FraudWatch Newsletter



The Anatomy of a Romance Scam: Romance scams are designed to manipulate emotions and exploit trust, often targeting individuals online through dating sites, social media, or apps. Here are the common steps scammers take:

- **The Perfect Introduction** – Scammers create convincing online profiles, often using stolen photos and mirroring the target's interests to appear relatable.
- **Building Trust and Connection** – They develop emotional bonds over weeks or months, showing care and understanding, while avoiding in-person meetings.
- **Creating Urgency and Sympathy** – Once trust is established, they fabricate crises that elicit sympathy, like medical emergencies or financial trouble. Victims are pressured to send money, gift cards, cryptocurrency, or share personal information.
- **The Disappearing Act (or Not)** – Sometimes the scammer vanishes; other times they linger, prolonging the scam. If someone has been scammed, it's important to stop all contact, document everything, report the situation to authorities. The key takeaway is that awareness and open conversation are your best defenses.



Government Shutdown Scammers: Hackers across the U.S. are exploiting the current government shutdown by impersonating agencies such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, SNAP, the FTC, the IRS, and even the FBI. They often claim they can provide services "despite the shutdown" but then request money or personal information. To stay safe, only contact people or agencies you have previously interacted with, remember that government agencies do not send texts or use social media for official business, and never ask for money via wires, cryptocurrency, or gift cards. Caller ID cannot be trusted, so always verify independently by contacting the agency directly.

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 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

307-223-1265



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/
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



Mobile Food Pantries Coming To Your Area:

NOV. 4 - LYMAN - BRIDGER VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH	4-7P
NOV. 6 - PINEDALE - RENDEZVOUS POINT	11A-1P
NOV. 7 - ROCK RIVER - 321 AVENUE D	10:30A-12:30P
NOV. 14 - HANNA - TOWN SHOP, 407 LOWE STREET	10A-12P
NOV. 15 - BASIN - FAIRGROUNDS	10A-12P
NOV. 15 - KAYCEE - HAROLD JARRARD PARK	9A-11A
NOV. 18 - BUFFALO - FAIRGROUNDS COMMUNITY BUILDING	12-2P
NOV. 20 - NEWCASTLE - FAIRGROUNDS	11A-1P
NOV. 21 - WRIGHT - MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING	1-2 P
NOV. 22 - KAYCEE - HAROLD JARRARD PARK	9-11A
NOV. 20 - SHERIDAN- FAIRGROUNDS	9-11A
NOV. 24 - ROCK SPRINGS - WHITE MOUNTAIN MALL	11:30A-1P
NOV. 24 - ARAPAHOE SCHOOL	12-2PM

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CHECK OUT WYOMINGFOODBANK.ORG/FIND-FOOD
OR CALL 1-877-265-2172.**