

FALL 2024 REPORT

KSW FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY FOR MEMBERS OF
KSW FEDERAL CREDIT UNION



Cybersecurity Awareness Month

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month—a time to raise awareness about online threats and the steps people can take to better protect themselves when using the internet. Implement the following four actions into your day-to-day life to increase online security:

1. Enable Multi-Factor Authentication
2. Use Strong Passwords
3. Recognize and Report Phishing
4. Keep Your Software Updated

Do your part. Be cyber smart!

Crypto ATM Scams

Given how popular cryptocurrency has become in recent years, it's expected that consumers will have the option to make crypto payments for various transactions in the years to come. While like other digital payment options, it can quickly and conveniently help people pay, it's important to stay educated on the latest scams and safeguard yourself from fraudsters.

Crypto and BitCoin ATMs can be found across the country. These ATMs look regular and convert cash into digital currency. While fraud does exist, the machines are safe for consumers to utilize.

When conducting financial transactions involving crypto ATMs, remember:

- It is important to consult with someone you trust before acting
- Scammers want you to move fast
- Victims over the age of 60 tend to see the biggest financial issues

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*Members in Memoriam

Anniversaries

Dawna Briggs - 20 years
Mikel Booker - 9 years
Rocky Dixon - 1 year
Melissa Nash - 1 year

Holiday Closures

Columbus Day - Monday, October 14th
Thanksgiving - Thursday, November 28th
Christmas - Wednesday, December 25th
New Year's Day - Wednesday, January 1st

kswfcu.org

Have You Used Shared Branching Yet?

As a credit union member, with Shared Branching you are able to make deposits, withdrawals, transfers, or loan payments at any participating credit union like it is your own. And even if you love accessing your account through an app, Shared Branching has a place in today's digital age.

If you're still wondering why you should use Shared Branching, here are five reasons to start.

- It's convenient. Whether you're traveling out of town or moving away to college, you can keep your money right where it is.
- It's accommodating. When you visit a Shared Branching location, you can access your accounts, deposit checks, and make loan payments just like you can at your home credit union.
- It's supportive. Credit unions work together to provide members with the best services. When you use these services, you are supporting your credit union so it can continue to serve you.
- It's easy. Download the CO-OP Shared Branch app for iPhone or Android or go to co-opsharedbranching.org for a full list of Shared Branch locations nationwide and across the globe.
- It's free. That's right – Shared Branching is all about giving you the best service at no cost to you.

To locate a branch near you, visit <http://mainecreditunions.org/find-a-shared-branch/>.

SURF Your Way to Fall Fun

The end of the year brings many wonderful things – the holidays, time with family, football, pumpkin spice and eggnog lattes.

It also tends to bring an onslaught of requests for donations to various charities. So many that it can be challenging to decide where to make your tax-deductible donations. It may be a good idea to investigate charities to ensure they match your values and provide benefit before donating.

Unfortunately, some charities pop up in a quick bid for cash and disappear soon after. Visit the charity's website and explore to see examples of people they have helped and the history of their founding. If the site looks like it was thrown together quickly and lacks much information, this is a red flag, and you should do further investigation before donating.

Using Google, a web search will help you find some final bits of information. Search for "CHARITY NAME success stories" and "CHARITY NAME is awful" or similar combinations to get good and bad stories about your chosen organization. Weigh these search results against the other information you've found to make your final decision.