

# DETER DETECT DEFEND

## Safeguard your information:

- Treat your trash and mail carefully
- Keep your Social Security number and card in a safe place - not in your wallet
- Verify sources before sharing personal information
- Be on guard when using the Internet
- Select passwords that are complex and difficult to guess
- Store information in secure locations

**AVOID** THEFT

## Stay alert for signs of identity theft:

- Bills that do not arrive as expected.
- Unexpected credit cards or account statements.
- Denials of credit for no reason.
- Calls or letters about purchases you did not make.

Inspect your credit report and financial statements regularly

For more information, contact your local University of Georgia Cooperative Extension office.

Visit [www.gafamilies.com](http://www.gafamilies.com) or call 1-800-ASK-UGA1

## If you're a victim of identity theft:

1. Place a fraud alert on your credit reports, and review your credit reports.
2. Close the accounts that you know, or believe, have been tampered with or opened fraudulently.
3. File a report with your local police or the police in the community where the identity theft took place.
4. File a complaint with the *Federal Trade Commission*.  
[ftc.gov/idtheft](http://ftc.gov/idtheft) · 1-877-ID-THEFT



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Colleges of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences & Family and Consumer Sciences