



CRIME ALERT

ATM FRAUD/SKIMMING

In response to the increase of ATM Fraud/Skimming crimes committed in surrounding cities here is some information on how to protect your personal information.

Skimming is when criminals capture credit card information and personal identification numbers from the magnetic strip on the back side of your card, using a small device that fits into ATM card readers and pin pads.

This hi-tech equipment is equipped with pinhead-sized cameras along with Bluetooth technology that downloads information wirelessly. This information, once copied, can be used to withdraw money or make illegal purchases on your accounts.

In most cases, these devices or "skimmers" are installed on outdoor ATM's or exposed point-of-sale machines such as gas station kiosks.

Skimmers are difficult to detect, credit cards are better protected against fraud than debit cards.

Prevention

Here are a few tips to protect your information:

- Avoid using your debit card. Credit Cards are better protected against fraud.
 - If you must use your Debit Card, cover up your hand as you enter your PIN so the camera can't record what you're entering.
- Use an indoor ATM; these are less likely to be tampered with.
- Use your PIN sparingly at retailers, always choose the signature option-or credit option instead.
- Check your bank accounts daily or set up email or text alerts to send you balance updates.

Important phone numbers

Police Emergency
911
Police Business Line
(626) 960-1955 press '0'
Credit Bureaus
Equifax (800) 525-6285
Experian (800) 397-3742
Transunion (800) 680-7289

Partner to prevent and report crime by contacting the Baldwin Park Police Department @ 960-1955. Wish to remain anonymous; call "LA CRIME STOPPERS" 1-800-222-TIPS(8477) OR TEXT A TIP TO "CRIMES" (274637), TYPE TIPLA, and your tip information, or using the website <http://lacrimestoppers.org>

To receive up-to-date information from the Baldwin Park Police Department sent directly to your email or cell phone, sign up for "NIXLE" alerts at www.nixle.com

Nixle is completely free, simple and trusted (standard text messaging rates apply). Sign up at www.nixle.com to register.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please reply to this email. Questions or comments? E-mail us at mmontenegro@baldwinpark.com or call 626 813-5257.