



Is this SPAM?



What is SPAM?



SPAM is unsolicited junk email sent indiscriminately in bulk, often for commercial purposes.

Much of it is sent by botnets, networks of virus-infected computers, complicating the process of tracking down the spammers.

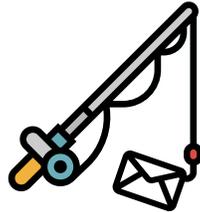
According to various estimates, about 80% of all email in the world may be SPAM.

80% 

What is Phishing?

Phishing is the practice of defrauding users into giving up their personal information.

Phishing emails will often try to get you to click on links that take you to fake websites; often pretending to be from organizations such as banks and Amazon.



A county employee or vendor will never ask you for the password to your email account.

DO NOT GIVE IT OUT!

Why am I getting SPAM from myself?



Spammers can forge the origin of their messages, just as easily as writing anyone's return address on an envelope.

If you get a message that claims to be from you, it may be due to spoofing rather than originating from your email account. It doesn't necessarily mean you've been hacked.

Because of a forged "FROM" address, you may be getting bounced-email notifications about emails you never sent. This doesn't necessarily mean a hacker has access to your account, just that a spammer hid behind your email address.

How do I handle SPAM?



Always forward your SPAM to TAC CIRA at support@cira.state.tx.us

Then report the message from your inbox.

Webmail Users: Right-click on the message and select "Report SPAM."

Outlook Users: Right-click the message, scroll to "Junk" and select "Block Sender."

You can also edit your junk email settings by selecting "Junk Email Options."

Continued Issues with SPAM?

- Change your password
- Use long and complex passphrases instead of passwords
- Include uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols in your passphrase
- Scan your computer for malware
- Change your email account name and create an alias for your previous email



TIPS



- NEVER click on links in unsolicited emails
- NEVER download files from suspicious emails
- NEVER give out your password to anyone
- Unsubscribe from automated emails such as newsletters or promotions
- Ensure that you are not displaying your email address publicly, such as on your county website
- Do not include your email address as a part of your signature.
- When in doubt, question an email's legitimacy.



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