The length and strength of a password can make a huge difference in how long it takes for hackers to crack the code. It’s important that each online account have slightly different iterations. Here are some tips for creating hack-proof passwords.

**Use strong, unique passwords**
Secure passwords are easy to remember but hard to guess.
Do NOT use the same password for multiple accounts.

**Long passwords take longer to crack**
How long does it take to break a password?
- 8 characters long – Days to crack
- 10 characters long – Weeks to crack
- 12 characters long – Years to crack

Be sure to include:
Uppercase & lowercase letters, numbers & symbols

**Use a password stem**
Add a different pre- or post-fix to your password per account. It makes it easier to remember multiple unique passwords.
*For email:* #2019SpLhC@!@!webmail
*For website:* #2019SpLhC@!@!website

**Avoid using**
Special dates:
Birthdays, Anniversaries
Names:
Spouse, Children, Pets
County Information:
County name, Position or Title

**Trick to create strong, easy-to-remember passwords**
- Come up with a phrase/song: *Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club*
- Take the first letter of each word: SPLHC
- Add numbers and characters #2019SpLhC@!