

notes & news

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Chip-Enhanced Debit and Credit Cards

After numerous large-scale data breaches in the past few years, many card issuers are making the switch to new technology that will improve payment security, making it more difficult for fraudsters to successfully counterfeit cards. EMV (which stands for Europay, MasterCard® and Visa®) is the global standard for chip-enhanced debit and credit cards that use embedded computer chips to process transactions in a way that's nearly impossible to duplicate.

At SMW FCU, we want to provide you with the most up-to-date security features available. Beginning January 1, 2016, when your current Visa debit and/or credit card expires, you will be sent a new chip card.

The magnetic stripe on the back of traditional debit and credit cards contains unchanging data – like your card number, expiration date and CVV code. If a fraudster gains access to that data, they have all the information they need to duplicate your card and start making purchases. Chip-enhanced cards, on the other hand, contain an embedded microchip that creates a unique, one-time-use transaction code; fraudsters can't duplicate the card in the traditional way. Because the chip creates codes that can only be used one time, attempting to reuse a transaction code would likely result in the card being denied.

Instead of swiping to pay, like a traditional magnetic stripe card, chip-enhanced cards use a process called "card dipping." Chip-enhanced cards are inserted into the terminal and the chip sends data back to the issuing financial institution where the unique transaction data is created.

If chip terminals are not available with a particular merchant, you will still be able to use your card the traditional way by swiping the magnetic stripe through the reader.

Deposit Checks from
Your Smartphone.
Anytime. Anywhere.



Remote deposit capture (RDC) is a free service that allows you to make convenient and secure deposits into your checking account by simply taking a picture of the front and back of your checks with your smartphone camera and our mobile app. Your account will be credited with the deposit, and the image is then processed to clear electronically.

Our app currently supports Android™ and iPhone® devices. The limit per deposit is \$7,500. Generally, the funds will show up in your account immediately, but the deposit, especially the first couple, may be subject to a two-day hold. We make the first \$100 available immediately.

More information is available at
smwfcu.com/personal/convenient-services

Round Up Saver

Save Money Wisely at SMW!

Now you can round up the spare change from every debit card purchase and have it automatically deposited into your SMW Savings Account. Whatever you're saving for, Round Up Saver makes it easier to get there. Automatically deposit the difference from your checking account to your SMW Savings Account.

Any SMW employee can sign you up. Just ask. It only takes a couple seconds for us to set up, and then you are on your way with an excellent habit!



As parents, we are the number one influence on our children's financial behaviors, so it's up to us to raise a generation of mindful consumers, investors, savers and givers. The earlier we start taking advantage of everyday teachable money moments, the more likely our children will grow up with the knowledge, discipline and motivation to save at least 10 cents of every dollar they earn.

AGE birth to 12 – When you and your child come into the SMW Branch to make a deposit, your child will receive a small gift to elicit a positive feeling about the experience. When his/her deposits reach \$150, we'll award a Super Saver Certificate and SMW will add \$10 to the savings account.

AGE 13 to 21 – Check out our financial education classes on managing a checking account, using mobile and online banking, saving and the power of compound interest, building a good credit history and managing credit cards. After you save \$350, attend two classes (30 minutes each) and pass the quiz at the end of the class, SMW will deposit \$100 into your savings account. Call Victoria at 651-747-1563 to register for classes.

Here are some helpful tips for raising money-smart kids:

- ✓ Talk openly about money as a family. Communicate your values and experiences with money. Encourage your children to ask you questions, and be prepared to answer them – even the tough ones.
- ✓ Explain the difference between needs and wants, the value in saving and budgeting and the consequences of not doing so.
- ✓ Set up a chore chart and give your children an allowance for completing their tasks. Require them to save at least a small portion each week. The three jars method, one for spending, one for saving and one for charitable contributions is a good way to impart a sense of responsibility.
- ✓ Open a savings account at the credit union for your children and take them with you to make deposits, so they can learn how to be hands-on in their money management.
- ✓ Be an example of a responsible money manager by paying bills on time and being a conscious spender and active saver. Children tend to emulate their parents' personal finance habits.



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