Dealing with the Obvious

Tips for Spam, Spim and Spy Ware

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Spam – Spim – Spy ware

- **Spam**: That gunk that clogs your e-mail’s inbox
  - Obvious Spam
  - Not so obvious Spam
  - Phishing

- **Spim**: The gunk that clogs your instant messaging service

- **Spy ware**: The gunk you pickup when you browse the Internet. Causes Identity theft and “computer flu.”
Spam

► Don’t reply to spam or click on its “unsubscribe” link

► Disable the preview pane in your email client

► Use one email address for family and friends, one for business, and another for everyone else

► Don’t post your e-mail address in its normal form on a publicly accessible Web page.

► Don’t open it, delete it
Six Ways to Outwit ID Thieves – “Phishers”

1. Never directly respond to an e-mail asking for personal information.

2. If you doubt a message’s authenticity, verify it by contacting the institution itself.

3. Avoid spoofed sites by entering the Web address directly into browser’s address bar or by using bookmarks you create.
Six Ways to Outwit ID Thieves – “Phishers”

4. When prompted for a password, give an incorrect one first. A phishing site will accept it, a legitimate one won’t.

5. Make sure the Web site is secure – lock/key.

6. Forward fraudulent spam to the Federal Trade Commission at sapm@uce.gov and the Anti-Phishing Working Group at reportphishing@antiphishing.org
Spy Ware – What is it?

- Primarily used for gathering demographic information
- Often piggybacks on “innocent” downloads of software from Web sites – bundle with “free” stuff
- Can be used for fraudulent purposes
- Can control of browser’s home page, pop-up ads, redirect you to different Web sites
- Can slow computers performance and cause system and software crashes
Avoiding Sneaky Spy Ware

1. Download and install software only from trusted sources
2. When installing software – read the license agreement
3. Adjust your Web browser security settings. Keep at medium or higher to block unauthorized downloads and prevent Web pages from automatically running Windows active scripts
Avoiding sneaky spy ware

4. Use updated anti spy ware software to scan your hard drive regularly

5. Learn more about spy ware at

- [www.pchell.com/support/spyware.shtml](http://www.pchell.com/support/spyware.shtml)
- [www.spywareguide.com](http://www.spywareguide.com)
- [www.ndsu.edu/its/security](http://www.ndsu.edu/its/security)
Questions?

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