

MEMBER insight

August 2023

Gift Card Scams on the Rise!

Gift card scams start with a call, text, email, or social media message. Scammers will say almost anything to get you to buy gift cards and hand over the card number and PIN codes. Scammers tell different stories to get you to buy gift cards so they can steal your money. Here are some common gift card scams:

Scammers say they're from the government. They say they're from the IRS or the Social Security Administration. They say you have to pay taxes or a fine. But government agencies won't contact you to demand immediate payment, and they never demand payment by gift card. It's a scam.



Scammers say they're from tech support. They say they're from Microsoft or Apple and there's something wrong with your computer. They ask for remote access, and say to pay them to get it fixed. Don't give them access to your computer. It's a scam.

Scammers say you've won a prize. But first, they tell you to pay fees or other charges with a gift card. It's a scam. No honest business or agency will ever make you buy a gift card to pay them for a prize. And did you even enter to win that prize?

Scammers say they're from your utility company. They threaten to cut off your service if you don't pay immediately. But utility companies don't work that way. It's a scam.

Scammers ask for money after they chat you up on a dating website. Romance scammers will make up any story to trick you into buying a gift card to send them money. Slow down. Never send money or gifts to anyone you haven't met in person — even if they send you money first.

Scammers send a check for way more than you expected. They tell you to deposit the check and give them the difference on a gift card. Don't do it. It's a scam. That check will be fake and you'll be out all that money.

If you bought a gift card and gave someone the numbers off the back of the card, that's a scam. Report the gift card scam to the gift card company right away. Ask for your money back. Some companies are helping stop gift card scams and might give your money back. It's worth asking. Tell the FTC at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/ReportFraud). Every report makes a difference.

TACU IN THE COMMUNITY



TACU had a busy month in the community. Todd Scholz, President/CEO spent an afternoon at the Monroe County Fair and purchased the Grand Champion Hog from Dana J. during the Monroe County Jr. Livestock sale.

TACU dropped off a gift basket and got a tour of the new Tomah Area Ambulance Services building.

5-Spot has been out and about serving our community as well. He gave some backpacks to be handed out at the Tomah Sparta Speedway. He also spent an evening dancing and making friends at Tomah's Downtown Thursday Nights.



PROTECT YOUR VISA CREDIT CARD

The simple, secure way to manage and protect your cards.

SecurLOCK™

EQUIP

Download the app today!

UPCOMING EVENTS
Closed Labor Day - September 4th

ANNIVERSARIES
Krista Bethhauser, Loan Officer - 15 years

TACU CREDIT UNION
PO Box 940
940 North Superior Ave
Tomah, WI 54660
Phone: 608.372.4736
Fax: 608.372.4394
www.tacuoonline.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Chairman — Paul Wiese
Vice-Chairman — John Froelich
Treasurer — Linda Johnson
Secretary — Martha Klatt
Director — Al Laylan
Director — Joseph Bubnich
Director — Jeff Cram

OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Friday
9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

DRIVE-UP HOURS
Monday - Thursday
7:30 am to 5:30 pm
Friday
7:30 am to 6:00 pm
Saturday
8:30 am to 12:30 pm



Federally insured by NCUA up to \$250,000
Equal Housing Opportunity

