



As you may have learned over the weekend from national news coverage, a cyberattack using the ransomware known as **WannaCry** (or WannaCrypt) has impacted organizations and individuals on a worldwide scale. According to the latest reports, the attack was discovered on Friday, May 12 and quickly spread to at least 150 countries including the United States, United Kingdom, Russia, France and Japan.

At Huntington, protecting your data is a top priority. We wanted to share a few steps you can take to help protect yourself and your family from cyber threats.

### **Microsoft users: Update your system software**

Microsoft released a patch in March, 2017 that addresses the WannaCry vulnerability. Making sure this patch is installed on your computer will help secure your systems from the threat. Here is a description from Microsoft:

*While security updates are automatically applied in most computers, some users and enterprises may delay deployment of patches. Unfortunately, the ransomware, known as WannaCrypt appears to have affected computers that have not applied the patch for these vulnerabilities. While the attack is unfolding, we remind users to install **MS17-010** if they have not already done so.*

For additional information, as well as helpful diagnostic tools, visit the Microsoft Malware Protection Center (MMPC) on the Microsoft website.

### **Back up your data**

Even if your computer is functioning normally, this is an excellent opportunity to back up your data to prevent possible loss, whether you are at a home, work, or on a school computer. Use either a portable hard drive or any of the many cloud backup services that are currently available to back up your data automatically.

### **Don't become a phishing victim**

Criminals frequently gain access to your computer by getting you to click on a link or an attachment within an email. Known as phishing, this technique can give criminals the opening they need to implant ransomware or other viruses.

***Think before you click.*** Confirm the legitimacy of attachments, even if they come from a friend or known company. Take the extra few seconds to navigate directly to websites instead of clicking on a questionable link. And be suspicious of warnings or aggressive deadlines: Phishers will often try to push you into acting immediately, and may threaten consequences such as account suspension or additional fees if you don't respond right away.

**By taking simple steps like these, you can dramatically reduce the threat of**

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