



CORONAVIRUS SCAMS ALERT

According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), since the emergence of the coronavirus outbreak, scammers have been taking advantage of fears surrounding the virus. You may receive emails, letters or phone calls promoting prevention tips, listing fake information about cases in your neighborhood, offering advice on unproven treatments, asking you to donate to victims, or containing attachments that are harmful to your computer.

Here are some tips to help you avoid these scams:

- **DON'T** click on links from unfamiliar sources. This could download a virus to your device.
- **DON'T** make donations to individuals pressuring you to give them cash, gift cards, or asking you to wire them money.
- Be aware of emails claiming to have information from experts or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). For current information about the coronavirus, visit the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov).
- Ignore advertisements and websites that promote vaccinations and treatments to cure or prevent the virus. There are currently no vaccines, medicines, or products to treat or cure the virus.
- Be aware of “investment opportunities” claiming that investing in the publicly traded companies that have products or services that prevent, detect, or cure the coronavirus, will result in a profit.

For more information about coronavirus scams visit the FTC website at www.ftc.gov

To make a report of suspicious claims go to www.ftc.gov/complaint

For local assistance, please call Legal Services for Seniors at 831-899-0492.

To make a report of elder abuse/neglect or exploitation, please call Monterey County Adult Protective Services at 831-755-4466.