

Enrollment Code: <<XXXXXXXX>>

Enrollment Deadline: October 15, 2025

To Enroll, Scan the QR Code Below:



Or Visit:

<https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect>

July 15, 2025

Notice of Data Breach

To <<First Name>> <<Middle Initial>> <<Last Name>> <<Suffix>>:

The Appalachian Regional Commission (“ARC”) is writing to inform you of a data security incident that may have involved your personal information. ARC is a U.S. federal government and 13 state governments partnership entity that works to strengthen economic growth in the Appalachian Region. This letter provides information about the incident and resources available to you.

What happened?

On April 10, 2025, ARC became aware of a cybersecurity incident that involved the deployment of malware on certain systems. Upon detection, ARC took steps to contain the threat and engaged a third-party forensic firm to investigate the incident and assist with remediation efforts. ARC subsequently determined that an unauthorized party was able to access and remove some data from its network on April 10, 2025. Based on the comprehensive data analysis that was performed and ultimately completed on July 7, 2025, it appears that your personal information may have been involved. <<Variable Text 4>>

What information may have been involved?

The personal information involved may have included your name, address, date of birth, Social Security number, driver’s license or state ID number or other government identifier, <<Variable Text A>> and/or medical or treatment information. Not all data elements were involved for all individuals.

What we are doing.

ARC takes the security of personal information very seriously. As soon as we discovered the incident, we promptly launched a forensic investigation, took steps to mitigate and remediate the incident and to help prevent further unauthorized activity, and contacted law enforcement. In response to this incident, we have and continue to enhance our security controls and monitoring practices as appropriate, to minimize the risk of any similar event in the future.

In addition, we have arranged to offer you 24 months of complimentary credit monitoring and identity theft protection services through IDX, at no cost to you. While these services are free, you have until October 15, 2025 to activate these services. We encourage you to take advantage of this offering, and instructions on how to enroll are included in the enclosed Reference Guide.

What you can do.

In addition to enrolling in complimentary credit monitoring services, the enclosed Reference Guide includes additional information on general steps you can take to monitor and to help protect your personal information. We encourage you to remain vigilant against potential identity theft and fraud by carefully reviewing credit reports and account statements to

ensure that all activity is valid. Any questionable charges should be promptly reported to the company with which the account is maintained.

For more information

If you have any questions about this matter or would like additional information (including which types of your data may have been involved), please call toll-free 1-800-939-4170. This call center is open from 9:00am to 9:00pm ET, Monday through Friday, except holidays.

We deeply regret any concern this incident may cause you and want to assure you that we take this matter seriously.

Sincerely,

Appalachian Regional Commission

Reference Guide

Review Your Account Statements

Carefully review account statements and credit reports to ensure that all of your account activity is valid. Report any questionable charges promptly to the financial institution or company with which the account is maintained.

Order Your Free Credit Report

To order your free annual credit report, visit www.annualcreditreport.com, call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228, or complete the Annual Credit Report Request Form on the U.S. Federal Trade Commission's ("FTC") website at www.ftc.gov and mail it to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281. The three credit bureaus provide free annual credit reports only through the website, toll-free number or request form.

Upon receiving your credit report, review it carefully. Look for accounts you did not open. Look in the "inquiries" section for names of creditors from whom you have not requested credit. Some companies bill under names other than their store or commercial names; the credit bureau will be able to tell if this is the case. Look in the "personal information" section for any inaccuracies in information (such as home address and Social Security Number).

If you see anything you do not understand, call the credit bureau at the telephone number on the report. Errors may be a warning sign of possible identity theft. You should notify the credit bureaus of any inaccuracies in your report, whether due to error or fraud, as soon as possible so the information can be investigated and, if found to be in error, corrected. If there are accounts or charges you did not authorize, immediately notify the appropriate credit bureau by telephone and in writing. Information that cannot be explained should also be reported to your local police or sheriff's office because it may signal criminal activity.

How to Enroll in IDX Credit Monitoring Services

As a safeguard, we have arranged for you to enroll, at no cost to you, in an online credit monitoring service provided by IDX.

To enroll in this service, please call 1-800-939-4170 or visit <https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect> and follow the instructions for enrollment using Enrollment Code: <<Enrollment Codes>>

The monitoring included in the membership must be activated to be effective. You have until October 15, 2025 to enroll in these services. Note: Please note that credit monitoring services might not be available for individuals who have not established credit or an address in the United States (or its territories) and a valid Social Security number. Enrolling in this service will not affect your credit score. If you need assistance, IDX will be able to assist you.

We encourage you to take advantage of these protections and remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft, including regularly reviewing and monitoring your credit reports and account statements.

Contact the U.S. Federal Trade Commission

If you detect any unauthorized transactions in any of your financial accounts, promptly notify the appropriate payment card company or financial institution. If you detect any incidents of identity theft or fraud, promptly report the matter to your local law enforcement authorities, state Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

You can contact the FTC to learn more about how to protect yourself from becoming a victim of identity theft at Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580; 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338); www.ftc.gov/idtheft/.

Place a Fraud Alert on Your Credit File

To protect yourself from possible identity theft, consider placing a fraud alert on your credit file. A fraud alert helps protect against the possibility of an identity thief opening new credit accounts in your name. When a credit grantor checks the credit history of someone applying for credit, the credit grantor gets a notice that the applicant may be the victim of identity theft. The alert notifies the credit grantor to take steps to verify the identity of the applicant. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by calling any one of the toll-free fraud numbers provided below. You will reach an automated telephone system that allows flagging of your file with a fraud alert at all three credit bureaus.

Equifax	P.O. Box 105069 Atlanta, GA 30348	1-888-298-0045	www.equifax.com
Experian	P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013	1-888-397-3742	www.experian.com
TransUnion	P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19016	1-800-916-8800	www.transunion.com

Security Freezes

You have the right to request a credit freeze from a consumer reporting agency, free of charge, so that no new credit can be opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate a freeze. A security freeze is designed to prevent potential credit grantors from accessing your credit report without your consent. If you place a security freeze, potential creditors and other third-parties will not be able to get access to your credit report unless you temporarily lift the freeze. Therefore, using a security freeze may delay your ability to obtain credit.

Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a security freeze on your credit file at each credit bureau. To place a security freeze on your credit report you must contact the credit reporting agency by phone, mail, or secure electronic means and provide proper identification of your identity. The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze (note that if you are requesting a credit report for your spouse, this information must be provided for him/her as well): (1) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (2) Social Security number; (3) date of birth; (4) current address and any previous addresses for the past five years; and (5) any applicable incident report or complaint with a law enforcement agency or the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The request must also include a copy of a government-issued identification card and a copy of a recent utility bill or bank or insurance statement. It is essential that each copy be legible, display your name and current mailing address, and the date of issue.

Below, please find relevant contact information for the three consumer reporting agencies:

Equifax Security Freeze	P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348	1-888-298-0045	www.equifax.com
Experian Security Freeze	P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013	1-888-397-3742	www.experian.com
TransUnion	P.O. Box 160 Woodlyn, PA 19094	1-888-909-8872	www.transunion.com

Once you have submitted your request, the credit reporting agency must place the security freeze no later than 1 business day after receiving a request by phone or secure electronic means, and no later than 3 business days after receiving a request by mail. No later than five business days after placing the security freeze, the credit reporting agency will send you confirmation and information on how you can remove the freeze in the future.

For Residents of the District of Columbia

You may contact the D.C. Attorney General's Office to obtain information about steps to take to avoid identity theft: D.C. Attorney General's Office, Office of Consumer Protection, 400 6th Street, NW, Washington DC 20001, 1-202-442-9828, www.oag.dc.gov.

For Residents of Iowa

You may contact law enforcement or the Iowa Attorney General's office to report suspected incidents of identity theft. The Iowa Attorney General's Office can be reached at: Iowa Attorney General's Office, Director of Consumer Protection Division, 1305 E. Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50319, 1-515-281-5926, www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov.

For Residents of Maryland

You may also obtain information about preventing and avoiding identity theft from the Maryland Office of the Attorney General: Maryland Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023, <http://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/>.

For Residents of New Mexico

New Mexico consumers have the right to obtain a security freeze or submit a declaration of removal.

You may obtain a security freeze on your credit report to protect your privacy and ensure that credit is not granted in your name without your knowledge. You may submit a declaration of removal to remove information placed in your credit report as a result of being a victim of identity theft. You have a right to place a security freeze on your credit report or submit a declaration of removal pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting and Identity Security Act.

The security freeze will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing any information in your credit report without your express authorization or approval.

The security freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. When you place a security freeze on your credit report, you will be provided with a personal identification number, password, or similar device to use if you choose to remove the freeze on your credit report or to temporarily authorize the release of your credit report to a specific party or parties or for a specific period of time after the freeze is in place. To remove the freeze or to provide authorization for the temporary release of your credit report, you must contact the consumer reporting agency and provide all of the following:

- (1) the unique personal identification number, password or similar device provided by the consumer reporting agency;
- (2) proper identification to verify your identity; and
- (3) information regarding the third-party or parties who are to receive the credit report or the period of time for which the credit report may be released to users of the credit report.

A consumer reporting agency that receives a request from a consumer to lift temporarily a freeze on a credit report shall comply with the request no later than three business days after receiving the request. As of September 1, 2008, a consumer reporting agency shall comply with the request within fifteen minutes of receiving the request by a secure electronic method or by telephone.

A security freeze does not apply in all circumstances, such as where you have an existing account relationship and a copy of your credit report is requested by your existing creditor or its agents for certain types of account review, collection, fraud control or similar activities; for use in setting or adjusting an insurance rate or claim or insurance underwriting; for certain governmental purposes; and for purposes of pre-screening as defined in the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act.

If you are actively seeking a new credit, loan, utility, telephone, or insurance account, you should understand that the procedures involved in lifting a security freeze may slow your own applications for credit. You should plan ahead and lift a freeze, either completely if you are shopping around or specifically for a certain creditor, with enough advance notice before you apply for new credit for the lifting to take effect. You should contact a consumer reporting agency and request it to lift the freeze at least three business days before applying. As of September 1, 2008, if you contact a consumer reporting agency by a secure electronic method or by telephone, the consumer reporting agency should lift the freeze within fifteen minutes. You have a right to bring a civil action against a consumer reporting agency that violates your rights under the Fair Credit Reporting and Identity Security Act.

For Residents of New York

You may also obtain information about security breach response and identity theft prevention and protection from the New York Attorney General's Office: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341, 1-800-771-7755, www.ag.ny.gov.

For Residents of North Carolina

You may also obtain information about preventing and avoiding identity theft from the North Carolina Attorney General's Office: North Carolina Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, 1-919-716-6000, www.ncdoj.gov.

For Residents of Rhode Island

You have a right to file or obtain a police report related to this incident. You may also obtain information about preventing and avoiding identity theft from the Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General: Office of the Attorney General, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI, 02903, 1-401-274-4400, www.riag.ri.gov.