

# Security *focus*



Malicious cyber actors could take advantage of public concern surrounding COVID-19, more commonly referred to as the Coronavirus, by conducting phishing attacks and disinformation campaigns. Phishing attacks often use a combination of email and bogus websites to trick victims into revealing sensitive information. Disinformation campaigns can spread discord, manipulate the public conversation, influence policy development, or disrupt markets.

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) encourages individuals to guard against COVID-19-related phishing attacks and disinformation campaigns by taking the following precautions.

## COVID-19 CYBERSECURITY TIPS

- ◆ **Avoid** clicking on links in unsolicited emails/SMS Text messages and be wary of email attachments.
- ◆ **Do not** reveal personal or financial information to unknown sources, and do not respond to email/ SMS Text/ voice message solicitations for this information.
- ◆ **Review** CISA's Tip on Avoiding Social Engineering and Phishing Scams for more information on recognizing and protecting against phishing.  
Visit: [www.us-cert.gov/ncas/tips/ST04-014](http://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/tips/ST04-014)
- ◆ **Review** the Federal Trade Commission's blog post on coronavirus scams for information on avoiding COVID-19 related scams.  
Visit: [www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2020/02/coronavirus-scammers-follow-headlines](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2020/02/coronavirus-scammers-follow-headlines)
- ◆ **Use** trusted sources—such as legitimate, government websites—for up-to-date, fact-based information about COVID-19.

Centers for Disease Control  
World Health Organization  
Monterey County Health Department  
California Department of Public Health

Visit: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)  
Visit: [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)  
Visit: [www.mtyhd.org](http://www.mtyhd.org)  
Visit: [www.cdph.ca.gov](http://www.cdph.ca.gov)



**CISA**  
CYBER+INFRASTRUCTURE

### Who is the CISA?

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) is the Nation's risk advisor, working with partners to defend against today's threats and collaborating to build more secure and resilient infrastructure for the future.

CISA builds the national capacity to defend against cyber attacks and works with the federal government to provide cybersecurity tools, incident response services and assessment capabilities to safeguard the '.gov' networks that support the essential operations of partner departments and agencies.

For more information, Visit: <https://www.cisa.gov/coronavirus>

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