

**Website: ID Theft**



Inter-County Energy offers the following information regarding identity theft and the handling of matters involving your personal information, how to protect yourself and what to do. We have a policy that addresses those issues.

### **What is Identity Theft?**

Identity theft may occur when thieves obtain personal information such as social security numbers, bank and credit card account numbers, your income, your name, address and phone numbers. Such stolen information can be used without your knowledge to commit fraud or theft. A fact that surprises many consumers is that a large percentage of identity theft is committed by someone the victim knows. This is why it is important not to share confidential information such as passwords.

### **Why Protect Yourself?**

Identity theft is a serious crime. Victims of identity theft can incur not only a loss of money but a frustrating loss of time as they work to clear the damage criminals have made of their good name and credit record. If identity theft goes undetected for an extended period of time, it could take a great deal of time to fully repair the damage that has occurred. This makes regular preventive action important.

### **What Can I Do?**

The good news is that there are many steps you can do to ensure that you are not an easy target. Inter-County Energy has strict procedures for protecting and monitoring your information when it is in our care. We never require you to send personal information to us via e-mail. We urge you to be just as vigilant when sharing or managing your own information, and offer the following link.

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/consumers/index.html>

(The link above will take the customer to a page with 10 items of importance in dealing with ID theft.)

