Beware of Covid-19 Scams - Protecting Our Members

The Federal Trade Commission has issued a warning to consumers about scammers taking advantage of individuals surrounding Coronavirus fears. They are setting up websites to sell bogus products and using fake emails, texts, and social media posts as a ruse to take your money and get your personal information. Please remain alert to avoid possible scams and if you come across any suspicious claims, report them to the FTC at [ftc.gov/complaint](https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/#crnt&panel1-1).

Here are some tips to prevent from being scammed:

* Do your homework when it comes to donations, whether through charities or crowdfunding sites. Don’t let anyone rush you into making a donation. If someone wants donations in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money, don’t do it.
* Don’t click on links from sources you don’t know. It could download a virus onto your computer or device. Make sure the anti-malware and anti-virus software on your computer is up to date.
* Watch for emails claiming to be from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or experts saying that have information about the virus. For the most up-to-date information about the Coronavirus, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO).
* Ignore online offers for vaccinations. If you see ads touting prevention, treatment, or cure claims for the Coronavirus, ask yourself: if there’s been a medical breakthrough, would you be hearing about it for the first time through an ad or sales pitch?