

West Virginia Executive Branch Privacy Tip



How secure is your mobile phone?



Mobile phone security is a hot topic– so the State Privacy Office has scoured the “interwebs” to bring you some of the expert’s best advice. Here are some of the top tips:

- Make sure you have a passcode lock on your phone. On some it may be 4-6 numbers, and on others it could be your fingerprint. Just make sure to have something!
- Set up remote wipe. This is important if you lose your phone – you can wipe all data on your phone as soon as it connects to the internet.
- Always keep your phone and all apps updated. Security updates are often included.
- Back up your phone regularly.
- And about those apps – ALWAYS use a trusted source for downloading apps, such as iTunes or Google Play. Also – make sure you read what the app will have access to. Does your flashlight app really need to know your location and who your contacts are?
- Public Wi-Fi is not safe! Before using your phone in a public place, research ways to stay secure.

Note: Your agency/bureau/department/division may have specific requirements – always check your policies and procedures. If you have questions, contact your Privacy Officer.