

Money Saving Tips:

FOOD

- Plan weekly food menus - stick to the list when shopping.
- Eat at home when possible. Pack a lunch for school/work.

DINING OUT

- Set a spending limit, and bring cash. Avoid charging meals and adding to your debt.
- Stick to your limit by ordering the special, limiting drinks to one each, share an appetizer, skip dessert.

AUTO

- Carpool, walk, or bike when possible.
- Shop and compare insurance rates.
- Have vehicle serviced regularly to avoid major repairs.

HOUSEHOLD

- Set your thermostat to 68° in winter, wear a sweater if you're cold.
- Fans are cheaper to buy and run than air conditioners in the summer.
- Contact utility companies about budget plans and other ways to save.

EXTRAS

- Limit cell phone use & choose a lower monthly plan.
- Cancel movie channels to lower monthly cable bill.
- Consider eliminating these services altogether.

Use your weekly savings to make an extra payment toward the principle reduction of one of your debts.

> Check out your local library to find related publications or surf the net for more money saving tips.

This brochure was designed for UnitedOne members with our mission statement in mind:

Building Financial Strength
for Your Everyday Life
... Together



MANITOWOC

1117 South 10th Street 684-0361
2401 Menasha Ave. 686-9479
Wal-Mart SuperCenter 684-0361

SHEBOYGAN

2122 Superior Ave.
3509 Washington Ave.
451-8222

UnitedOne.org

**Open to anyone living or working in Manitowoc,
Sheboygan, Kewaunee, and Door Counties**

**Thinking
about
Bankruptcy?**



**Here are some
important
facts ...**

How will bankruptcy affect my overall credit?

There are two basic forms of personal bankruptcy:

- Chapter 7 is considered a “wash” of your debt.
- Chapter 13 is a court ordered repayment plan of your debt.

In either instance, the “bankruptcy tag” will remain on your credit report for **10 years**. Those next 10 years may be rough ones. Sure, you might get a loan or credit card after filing bankruptcy, but you’ll be viewed as a credit risk. This means that a new loan may be at the maximum rate with high fees, at a payment that is not affordable.

And in this day and age of heightened security, it’s not only creditors who are going to be reviewing your credit record. Bankruptcy is a public record, anybody has access to it. Landlords, insurance companies and employers may check public records for convictions and bankruptcies.*



How will bankruptcy affect my UnitedOne



Membership?

In the unfortunate event that UnitedOne suffers a loss as a result of your bankruptcy actions, your credit union membership will be terminated.

What does that mean?

Your accounts will be closed and all of your services, including payroll, Social Security, and Child Support direct deposits, will be discontinued and you will be asked to move them elsewhere. Once a loss has been caused and your membership terminated, future membership will likely be refused until the loss is voluntarily repaid.

Did you know that as a member of UnitedOne, you are part-owner?

Did you also know that as an owner, your co-owners (fellow members) are counting on you to keep your accounts in good standing? After all, it's their money that has been loaned to you.

How can I keep my membership?

Make the choice to take control of your debt in effort to avoid bankruptcy.

If you’ve exhausted your resources and still choose to file personal bankruptcy:

- Contact our Asset Protection staff

684-0361 or 451-8222 mail@UnitedOne.org

UnitedOne’s trained staff is here to help. Although the experience and knowledge they share should not be taken as legal advice, the information may be helpful to your situation.

How can I take control of my debt?

Studies have proven that when people write down their goals, they are more likely to begin, follow through, and accomplish what they’ve set out to do.



First, get a good look at the big picture by:

- Making a *complete* list of your current and past due obligations so you’ll have somewhere to start.

What’s the total?

What needs to be paid, weekly, monthly, etc. Map out where you stand.

Then, take snapshots of your daily spending:

- For one pay period, keep a detailed log of your expenses. From groceries and gas to specialty coffee and fast food dinners.

What’s the total? Were there impulse buys?

(Worksheets are available upon request and on our Web site.)

UnitedOne.org

OK ... NOW WHAT?

You can cut spending and use the savings to pay down debt OR you can earn extra money with a part-time job or overtime and use the extra earnings to pay down your debt.

THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

* Out of Hock & Out of Debt by Harry Dahlstrom