

Happy New Year!

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MEMPHIS MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

THE CREDITOR

Www.mmefcu.org

Starting A New Year

The beginning of a new year is a good time to plan on how to handle your money in 2012. Start by reviewing the following:

- * Savings goal for the past year. Ask yourself this question: Did I reach my goal in 2011?
- * Review your CD rates that are coming due. Research where you may want to put your money next. Interest rates at present are very low. But remember, every dollar counts. Try not to lock in for more than six months.
- * Look at your credit card balances. Are any close to being paid off? Maybe you could make double payments and get them paid off - assuming you're not making more charges on the cards. If you get your card paid off, do not cancel them or your credit score will suffer for closing them. Don't use the card or make one charge now and then and pay it off when the statement arrives.
- * Review your credit score. Hopefully your score is above 760. If so, then take steps to keep it there or higher. Consumers with higher credit scores can benefit by getting better interest rates on loans. Remember that you can get a free copy of your credit report each year. Make sure you check it for errors.
- * If you have children, start them off with a share savings account at the credit union. It's a great way to get your children in the habit of saving.

Travel Light With Your Debit Card

Still carrying around your checkbook or a wallet full of dead presidents? Lighten up with a debit card from your credit union. A debit card allows you access to your credit union checking account at ATMs as well as most merchants who accept credit cards. It looks like a credit card, but it acts like a check. That means you just need to account for your withdrawals by subtracting the amount from your checking account balance. And, there are no worries about paying interest on a credit card transaction. With your debit card from the credit union, you have the convenience of using a credit card, without its consequences. It's safer than carrying cash or your checkbook, too, because there are consumer protections available to you. To find out more about getting a debit card, feel free to contact us today at 901-528-2816.

There's A Faster Way

Are you waiting to receive your monthly statement in the mail? Just can't remember where you put last month's statement? Your credit union has an easier way for you to receive your monthly statements. When you sign up for e-Statements, your statements will be available to you to view and/or print

online 24/7.

Some of the great features are:

* Your current monthly statement will be ready to view immediately at the first of the month.

* Easy access to both current and past statements.

* No more paperwork to file away or misplace.

* You can always print out your current or previous statements with just a click of the mouse.

* Save paper by going green.

* Best of all: Safe, secure, and confidential!

Signing up for e-Statements is easy. Call today or visit us online at www.mmefcu.org.

New To The Credit Union?

If you have recently joined the credit union, you may be wondering if we're just like a bank. While we provide similar financial services, there are important differences you should be aware of. Here are three:

1. As a not-for-profit financial cooperative, credit unions are member-owned. Unlike stockholder driven financial institutions, we put people before profits.
2. The credit union is democratically controlled. As a member, you elect the volunteer board of directors. Board members represent the interests of the membership and serve as careful stewards of the assets entrusted to them. Because they are members just like you, they care deeply about the success of the credit union as a whole. They are looking out for everyone's interest, not just their own or that of a few select stockholders.
3. The more you use the credit union, the more you and the credit union prosper. Look to us to help you achieve your financial goals. By doing so, you make the credit union stronger, too.

Tips For Driving In Snow

Winter is here and that means snow. If you have to drive in the snow, your credit union offers these tips:

- * Turn your lights on - day as well as night.
- * When traveling on slick surfaces, use low gears. You will have more traction.
- * Don't tailgate. Drive slowly.
- * Avoid turning your wheel suddenly. Accelerate gradually. Sudden movements can cause skidding.

If it starts snowing before you start driving, try to wait until one or two inches of snow have fallen before driving. Dry snow on the road can actually provide more traction than spotty snow coverage.

Best Rates On Vehicle Loans

If you're in the market for a new or newer used vehicle, please stop by or give us a call to talk about financing. We've got the best rates on a variety of loan programs designed to fit your needs and budget. Finance up to 100% of the full purchase price, including tax, license, and any service contracts. Loans for new automobiles can be financed for up to 7 years at a fixed interest rate.

We urge you to stop by and talk to any member of our loan department first for financing before you visit the dealer. With your financing in place, you can bargain from a position of authority and get your best deal by applying all dealer and factory incentives directly to the purchase price of the vehicle.

