



Credit Card Skimming Devices

- Credit Card skimming devices, and the crimes that go along with them, are on the rise. According to FICO, in 2023 there was a 368% increase in credit card skimming devices across the nation.
- The FBI estimates approx. \$1 Billion per year cost to banks caused by credit card skimming devices.
- A credit card skimming device is defined as: a device that's sometimes installed illegally on ATMs, fuel pumps or point of sale (POS) systems. When customers swipe their credit or debit cards using the card reader, the skimmer can scan or skim their card information, along with their PIN numbers.
- Credit card skimmers can come in all shapes and sizes. They can be the size of a credit card stuck in a machine. They can be near exact replicas of the faceplate of the devices they are attached to. They could also be a microscopic camera stuck to the keypad.

Ways to Keep yourself safe from credit card skimming devices.

- Check the device that you are inserting your Debit or Credit card into. A slight tug on the card reader may dislodge any equipment installed by scammers to steal your information.
- When inserting your card, take note of how smoothly the card slides in. A credit card slot is only made to receive one card at a time. If the slot seems tighter than usual, then it may indicate that a credit card skimmer was inserted into the machine.
- Look for anything out of the ordinary.
- Keep an eye on your Credit/Debit card activity. If anything seems out of normal, contact your bank or credit card company.
- Use the tap to pay feature. This is considered safer because it side steps the threat of a credit card skimmer, due to the nature of the devices that are being used. A credit card skimmer copies the information from the magnetic stripe attached to your card when inserted into the card reader. With tap to pay, it is much more difficult to obtain this information.
- **IF YOU SUSPECT A CREDIT CARD SKIMMER IS PRESENT. INFORM THE OWNER OF THE LOCATION FIRST SO THAT THEY CAN SHUT DOWN THE MACHINE AND/OR REMOVE THE MALICIOUS DEVICE. THEN CONTACT THE LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENT.**

For more information about Weights & Measures, please go to: <https://www.nist.gov/pml/owm/weights-and-measures-week>.

To file a complaint in Cumberland County, please visit: <https://www.cumberlandcountynj.gov/weights-complaint>

