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Our Local Police Report

Submitted by Andy Anderson - Seldovia Chief of Police

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Call 911 for emergencies or assistance

The following report covers Police related activities for the period of time from 2/01/2011 through 3/04/2011.

- Keys which were found were listed on the Gazette last month and they were identified and returned to the owner. It's great when a plan comes together.
- Charges of Theft in the 4th Degree and Trespass in the 1st Degree were dismissed by the District Attorney's Office after the DA felt the wood theft case could not be proven beyond a reasonable doubt at trial. Police contacted the DA's Office and voiced their opinions and, hopefully, the Police will be contacted in the future prior to one of our cases being dismissed without any DA/Police discussion.
- Police were called to assist with an unruly patient at the SVT Clinic. Police were able to calm the patient so the medical personnel could continue their examination.
- Police responded to a call regarding Disorderly Conduct by a tenant. Upon responding the matter was handled informally and no Police action was necessary, other than assisting the subject creating the disturbance.
- Following a request for a welfare check by a friend who could not contact a local resident, the Police went to the resident's home to find him in good health and not in need of assistance.
- A citation was issued to a local resident following a report of their dog chasing a person on a 4-wheeler and snapping at the rider's legs. The rider did not suffer any injuries but a pant's leg was torn by the dog.
- Police responded to a snow machine/front end loader accident on Jakolof Bay Road. Miraculously no injuries were sustained in the accident and only minimal damage was sustained to the snow machine. The operator of the snow machine exited a driveway too fast and was unable to stop before colliding with the tire of the front end loader that was traveling on Jakolof Bay Road. Two citations were issued to the driver of the snow machine; "Failure to Exercise Due Caution to Prevent and Accident" and "Expired Registration" on the snow machine. The citations totaled fines of \$220.00.
- Police responded to a disturbance after receiving a call that a woman was unruly. The Officer found the lady to be upset with the caller after he approached her with a comment when she was walking past his apartment. Police were able to disfuse the situation and no further calls were received regarding the incident.
- A call was received regarding the wild turkeys roaming around Shoreline Drive. The tom is reportedly very aggressive and the caller fears him as does the children who live there. Arrangements were made with a local man to pen the tom turkey up so he couldn't continue to approach people in an aggressive manner. If the turkey is not penned and continues to be aggressive the Police will be forced to destroy the bird. Hopefully it will not come to that.
- Police received a report of the tom turkey on private property being aggressive toward the residents and a request was made that the turkey be removed. Police responded and, using seal bombs, was able to discourage the bird and it left the property.
- On February 7th a man reported his wife's vehicle, while parked at the SBE School, had nails punched into the sidewall of the

tire. Anyone having any information regarding this "Criminal Mischief" act is asked to contact the Police Department.

- Police were asked to assist with traffic control when a local contractor pulled an overturned vehicle out of the ditch on Barabara Creek hill. Police closed the road and the vehicle was removed without incident.
- Police responded to a domestic disturbance after receiving a call from a resident. Upon arrival the Officer found the two parties had separated and no further problems were forthcoming. Both of the involved parties were warned about the Disorderly Conduct statutes. No further action was taken by the Police.
- Police are attempting to find the owner of the camper trailer parked on the Sheppard property just north of the cemetery. If anyone knows who owns the small white camper trailer please contact the Police with the information.
- A call was received regarding a suspicious lady taking pictures in the East Addition. Police responded but the lady could not be located.
- Police were informed of a possible theft from a vacant residence by a neighbor. Police contacted the owner and were told the owner was aware of what had taken place and no theft had occurred.
- A lady was stopped for driving 35 mph in a 25 mph zone at approximately ½ mile, Jakolof Bay Road. A verbal warning was given.
- Police contacted a local resident regarding a driver's license issue. Police were told the matter would be straightened out without delay.
- A lady was contacted after she was clocked at 33 mph in a 25 mph zone on Airport Avenue. A verbal warning was given.
- A local resident reported a hit and run accident wherein her vehicle sustained some damage to the right rear quarter panel. A report was filed with her insurance company so she could get the damage repaired.
- Five people requested Police assistance since the last report.

Dogs are seen running again so we'll be contacting you owners. Be ready to secure the dog or pay the citation.

The following report covers Police related activities for the period of time from 1/01/2011 through
1/31/2011.

- Police responded to a residence following a Domestic Disturbance which was brought on by a child in the home who refused to take direction from a parent. The child was made aware of a child's responsibility in the home and told of the consequences which could take place if the child refused to take direction from the parents in the home. Hopefully the contact had a positive affect on the child and an outside agency will not be needed.
- A lady was formally charged with "Assault in the 4th Degree" following the case being sent to the District Attorney's office for review of the case. At arraignment the lady had retained an attorney and a "Not Guilty" plea was entered. Trial has been set for March in the matter.
- Police investigated a roll over accident on Barabara Creek Hill after a local resident made Police aware of the accident. Road conditions being very icy and the vehicle being a two wheel drive, along with the driver being inexperienced all led to the cause of the accident. No citations were issued in the case.
- In return for a plea of guilty to "Minor Consuming Alcohol" the District Attorney dismissed a second charge of "Disorderly Conduct" for a local man at his arraignment. The young man was sentenced to a \$1000 fine with \$500 suspended, was ordered to undergo alcohol screening and fulfill the alcohol program recommended, he was given 48 hours of community work service to be completed within 120 days, his operator license was suspended for 90 days and he was placed on probation for one year. This was the young man's second offense of "Minor Consuming Alcohol".
- A young man charged with "Minor Consuming Alcohol" pled guilty at arraignment and was sentenced to a \$600 fine with \$400 suspended and placed on probation for one year. This was the young man's first offense of "Minor Consuming Alcohol".
- A man was formally charged with "Furnishing Liquor to Minors" and an arraignment date was given. At arraignment he pled guilty to a lesser charge of "Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor" but admitted to buying alcohol for minors. He was sentenced to a \$500 fine and two years probation, a \$50 surcharge and 90 days in jail with 90 days suspended. During his probation he can commit no jailable offenses.
- A man called the Police after he locked himself out of his apartment during the early morning hours. Police responded and opened the door for the man.
- A lady reported being harassed by a man who made derogatory remarks and spat in her direction. She asked that the incident be recorded but, due to no witnesses, did not wish to pursue charges. The incident is now a matter of record.
- A man charged with his second count of "Minor Consuming Alcohol" and "Disorderly Conduct" pled not guilty and requested a Court appointed attorney. The request was granted and trial was set for March in this matter and the young man was directed

not to have contact with the complainant in the case or others who were also charged.

- A man was stopped by the Police after he was observed driving his 4-wheeler in excess of 15 mph on Anderson Way. He was given a verbal warning.
- Police responded to a report of an Assault and found a lady in need of medical assistance. Police transported the lady to the Seldovia Medical Clinic where the Doctor ordered a medical evacuation to the South Peninsula Hospital. Circumstances required the patient be physically restrained for the transport to Homer.
- Police and EMS responded to a call of a man down with CPR being applied. CPR was being conducted when the Police arrived on scene. An AED was used and EMT's arrived and took over the emergency. Everything that could be done was done but the man could not be saved. The loss was, and is, very impacting to the entire community and our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of the deceased.
- Police received a call in the early morning hours of a Domestic Dispute between a man and a woman. The man had asked the lady to leave his home and, when she refused, he called the Police. The Police talked to the lady on the phone and persuaded her to leave the residence and the matter was settled for the night.
- A call of two dogs running after a vehicle on Jakolof Bay Road and Shoreline Drive was received. Police responded and located the dogs in question and then contacted the care taker who caught the dogs and restrained them. A verbal warning was given for "Dog's at Large".
- A report of a vehicle in the ditch on Rocky Street was received. A subsequent investigation revealed a man had driven his truck off the road while adjusting his radio. No citation was given in the matter.
- A lady reported she had slid into the Yield sign located in the long term parking lot at the airport. She stated it was so slick she could not stop and had no steerage. The sign was bent over but still upright. In talking with DOT Police were told the signs would be replaced with new signs in the spring and no damage was done.
- A man reported damage to some totes that he stored on his porch due to them being chewed on by a dog. He accused his neighbor's dog due to his having to run it off his property repeatedly. Police attempted to contact the neighbor but he could not be found. A message was left on his telephone and a follow up will be done.
- Since last report Police have provided transportation for 2 citizens, rolled one citizen's fingerprints for employment purposes, served civil papers on 5 people and provided assistance for 2 citizens.

Please drive with your lights on during the darker hours in the mornings and the evenings, make sure your windows are free of ice and snow before leaving and slow down due to the icy conditions. These common sense suggestions will make Seldovia a safer place to live and you can avoid citations and/or points assessed to your driver's license. It's a win – win situation.

Tips From Andy...

The "Tips from Andy" are provided as information, to our citizens and friends to be alert to potential situations that may arise. Both the Chief and I have checked on the reliability of the advice through sources like Google, BreakTheChain, Hoax-Slayer or Snopes, etc. But it is important to note, that even with the checking of this information, we are relying on the truth of yet another internet source.

"Dusting"

First I'm going to tell you a little about me and my family. My name is Jeff. I am a Police Officer for a city which is known nationwide for its crime rate. We have a lot of gangs and drugs. At one point we were # 2 in the nation in homicides per capita. I also have a police K-9 named Thor. He was certified in drugs and general duty. He retired at 3 years old because he was shot in the line of duty. He lives with us now and I still train with him because he likes it. I always liked the fact that there was no way to bring drugs into my house. Thor wouldn't allow it. He would tell on you. The reason I say this is so you understand that I know about drugs. I have taught in schools about drugs. My wife asks all our kids at least once a week if they used any drugs. Makes them promise they wont.

I like building computers occasionally and started building a new one in February 2005. I also was working on some of my older computers. They were full of dust so on one of my trips to the computer store I bought a 3 pack of DUST OFF. Dust Off is a can of compressed air to blow dust off a computer. A few weeks later when I went to use one of them they were all used. I talked to my kids and my two sons both said they had used them on their computer and messing around with them. I yelled at them for wasting the 10 dollars I paid for them. On February 28 I went back to the computer store. They didn't have the 3 pack which I had bought on sale so I

bought a single jumbo can of Dust Off. I went home and set it down beside my computer.

On March 1st, I left for work at 10 PM. Just before midnight my wife went down and kissed Kyle goodnight. At 5:30 am the next morning Kathy went downstairs to wake Kyle up for school, before she left for work. He was propped up in bed with his legs crossed and his head leaning over. She called to him a few times to get up. He didn't move. He would sometimes tease her like this and pretend he fell back asleep. He was never easy to get up. She went in and shook his arm. He fell over. He was pale white and had the straw from the Dust Off can coming out of his mouth. He had the new can of Dust Off in his hands. Kyle was dead.

I am a police officer and I had never heard of this. My wife is a nurse and she had never heard of this. We later found out from the coroner, after the autopsy, that only the propellant from the can of Dust off was in his system. No other drugs. Kyle had died between midnight and 1 AM

I found out that using Dust Off is being done mostly by kids ages 9 through 15. They even have a name for it. It's called dusting. A take off from the Dust Off name. It gives them a slight high for about 10 seconds. It makes them dizzy. A boy who lives down the street from us showed Kyle how to do this about a month before. Kyle showed his best friend. Told him it was cool and it couldn't hurt you. Its just compressed air. It cant hurt you His best friend said no.

Kyle was wrong. It's not just compressed air. It also contains a propellant called R2. Its a refrigerant like what is used in your refrigerator. It is a heavy gas. Heavier than air. When you inhale it, it fills your lungs and keeps the good air, with oxygen, out. That's why you feel dizzy, buzzed. It decreases the oxygen to your brain, to your heart Kyle was right. It cant hurt you. IT KILLS YOU. The horrible part about this is there is no warning. There is no level that kills you. It's not cumulative or an overdose; it can just go randomly, terribly wrong. Roll the dice and if your number comes up you die. ITS NOT AN OVERDOSE. Its Russian Roulette. You don't die later. Or not feel good and say I've had too much. You usually die as your breathing it in. If not you die within 2 seconds of finishing "the hit." That's why the straw was still in Kyle's mouth when he died. Why his eye's were still open.

The experts want to call this huffing. The kids don't believe its huffing. As adults we tend to lump many things together. But it doesn't fit here. And that's why its more accepted. There is no chemical reaction no strong odor. It doesn't follow the huffing signals. Kyle complained a few days before he died of his tongue hurting. It probably did. The propellant causes frostbite. If I had only known.

Its easy to say hey, its my life and I'll do what I want But it isn't. Others are always effected. This has forever changed our family's life. I have a hole in my heart and soul that can never be fixed. The pain is so immense I cant describe it. There's nowhere to run from it. I cry all the time and I don't ever cry. I do what I'm supposed to do but I don't really care. My kids are messed up. One wont talk about it. The other will only sleep in our room at night. And my wife, I cant even describe how bad she is taking this. I thought we were safe because of Thor I thought we were safe because we knew about drugs and talked to our kids about them.

After Kyle died another story came out. A Probation Officer went to the school system next to ours to speak with a student. While there he found a student using Dust Off in the bathroom. This student told him about another student who also had some in his locker. This is a rather affluent school system. They will tell you they don't have a drug problem there. They don't even have a dare or plus program there. So rather than tell everyone about this "new" way of getting high they found, they hid it. The probation officer told the media after Kyle's death and they, the school, then admitted to it. I know that if they would have told the media and I had heard, it wouldn't have been in my house.

We need to get this out of our homes and school computer labs. Using Dust Off isn't new and some "professionals" do know about. It just isn't talked about much, except by the kids. They all seem to know about it.

April 2nd was 1 month since Kyle died. April 5th would have been his 15th birthday. And every weekday I catch myself sitting on the living room couch at 2:30 in the afternoon and waiting to see him get off the bus. I know Kyle is in heaven but I cant help but wonder If I died and went to Hell.

This is a new one. People sure stay busy trying to rip us off, don't they?

SCENE 1

A friend went to the local gym and placed his belongings in the locker. After the workout and a shower, he came out, saw the locker open, and thought to himself, 'Funny, I thought I locked the locker. Hmm, 'He dressed and just flipped the wallet to make sure all was in order. Everything looked okay - all cards were in place.

A few weeks later his credit card bill came - a whooping bill of \$14,000! He called the credit card company and started yelling at them, saying that he did not make the transactions. Customer care personnel verified there was no Mistake in the system and asked if his card had been stolen. 'No,' he said, but then took out his wallet, pulled out the credit card, and yep - you guessed it - a switch had been made. An expired similar credit card from the same bank was in the wallet. The thief broke into his locker at the gym and switched cards.

Verdict: The credit card issuer said since he did not report the card missing earlier, he would have to pay the amount owed to them . How much did he have to pay for items he did not buy? \$9,000! Why were there no calls made to verify the amount swiped? Small amounts rarely trigger a 'warning bell' with some credit card companies. It just so happens that all the small amounts added up to big one!

SCENE 2

A man at a local restaurant paid for his meal with his credit card. The bill for the meal came, he signed it and the waitress folded the receipt and passed the credit card along. Usually, he would just take it and place it in his wallet or pocket. Funny enough, though, he actually took a look at the card and, lo and behold, it was the expired card of another person. He called the waitress and she looked perplexed. She took it back, apologized, and hurried back to the counter under the watchful eye of the man.

All the waitress did while walking to the counter was wave the wrong expired card to the counter cashier, and the counter cashier immediately looked down and took out the real card. No exchange of words --- nothing! She took it and came back to the man with an apology.

Verdict: Make sure the credit cards in your wallet are yours. Check the name on the card every time you sign for something and/or the card is taken away for even a short period of time. Many people just take back the credit card without even looking at it, 'assuming' it has to be theirs.

FOR YOUR OWN SAKE, DEVELOP THE HABIT OF CHECKING YOUR CREDIT CARD EACH TIME IT IS RETURNED TO YOU AFTER A TRANSACTION!

SCENE 3

Yesterday I went into a pizza restaurant to pick up an order that I had called i. I paid by using my Visa Check Card which, of course, is linked directly to my checking account. The young man behind the counter took my card, swiped it, and then laid it on the counter as he waited for the approval, which is pretty standard procedure. While he waited, he picked up his cell phone and started dialing. I noticed the phone because it is the same model I have, but nothing seemed out of the ordinary. Then I heard a click which sounded like my phone sounds when I take a picture. He then gave me back my card but kept the phone in his hand as if he was still pressing buttons. Meanwhile, I'm thinking: I wonder what he is taking a picture of, oblivious to what was really going on. It then dawned on me: the only thing there was my credit card, so now I'm paying close attention to what he is doing.

He set his phone on the counter, leaving it open. About five seconds later, I heard the chime that tells you that the picture has been saved. Now I'm standing there struggling with the fact that this boy just took a picture of my credit card. Yes, he played it off well, because had we not had the same kind of phone, I probably would never have known what happened. Needless to say, I immediately canceled that card as I was walking out of the pizza parlor.

All I am saying is be aware of your surroundings at all times. Whenever you are using your credit card take caution and don't be careless. Notice who is standing near you and what they are doing when you use your card. Be aware of phones, because many have a camera phone these days.

TELL AS MANY PEOPLE AS YOU CAN THINK OF. LET'S GET THE WORD OUT! JUST BE AWARE!

Never let your card out of your sight check and check again!

Scary isn't it.

Jury Duty Scam

Alaska State Troopers are warning the public against a scam hitting the nation aggressively pursuing identity theft through jury duty summons.

The caller claims to be a jury coordinator and states that you failed to show up for jury duty. If you protest that you never received a summons for jury duty, the scammer asks you for your Social Security number and date of birth. The caller claims they need the information to check their system for an error and so the fictitious arrest warrant can be cleared. **DO NOT COMPLY!!!** By providing the caller with your personal information, you become the victim of identity theft.

Most of us take summonses for jury duty seriously, but enough people skip out on their civic duty that this new scam has surfaced. This scam has been reported in 11 states. The scam is particularly insidious because the callers pretend to be with the court system and use intimidation tactics over the phone to try to bully people into giving information. The FBI and the federal court system have issued nationwide alerts on their web sites, warning consumers about the fraud.

Keeping Records Safe

[Click Here to Go Directly to Social Security Online Website](#)

[Click Here for Article about Keeping Your Records Safe - Jean Chatzky](#)

A Letter From A Corporate Attorney To The Employees of His Company

1. Do not sign the back of your credit cards. Instead, put 'PHOTO ID REQUIRED.'
2. When you are writing checks to pay on your credit card accounts, **DO NOT** put the complete account number on the 'For/Memo' line. Instead, just put the last four numbers. The credit card company knows the rest of the number, and anyone who might be handling your check as it passes through all the check processing channels won't have access to it.
3. Put your work phone # on your checks instead of your home phone. If you have a PO Box use that instead of your home address. If you do not have a PO Box, use your work address. Never have your SS# printed on your checks. (DUH!) You can add it if it is necessary. But if you have it printed, anyone can get it.
4. Place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine. Do both sides of each license, credit card, etc. You will know what you had in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place. I also carry a photocopy of my passport when I travel either here or abroad. We've all heard horror stories about fraud that's committed on us in stealing a Name, address, Social Security number, credit cards. In case your luggage is lost, take another list in your carry on bag, especially if you are abroad and need immediate access to those numbers.

Unfortunately, I, an attorney, have first hand knowledge because my wallet was stolen last month. Within a week, the thieves ordered an expensive monthly cell phone package, applied for a VISA credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a Gateway computer, received a PIN number from DMV to change my driving record information online, and more. But here's some critical information to limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know:

5. We have been told we should cancel our credit cards immediately. But the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them.

6. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where your credit cards, etc., were stolen. This proves to credit providers you were diligent, and this is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one).

But here's what is perhaps most important of all: (I never even thought to do this.)

7. Call the 3 national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and also call the Social Security fraud line number. I had never heard of doing that until advised by a bank that called to tell me an application for credit was made over the Internet in my name. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen, and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit.

By the time I was advised to do this, almost two weeks after the theft, all the damage had been done. There are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases, none of which I knew about before placing the alert. Since then, no additional damage has been done, and the thieves threw my wallet away this weekend (someone turned it in). It seems to have stopped them dead in their tracks.

If you are willing to pass this information along, it could really help someone that you care about.

BEWARE - New Credit Card Scam

Snopes.com : <http://www.snopes.com/crime/warnings/creditcard.asp>

About.com: http://urbanlegends.about.com/library/bl_credit_card_fraud.htm

This one is pretty slick since they provide YOU with all the information, except the one piece they want.

Note, the callers do not ask for your card number; they already have it.. This information is worth reading. By understanding how the VISA & Master Card Telephone Credit Card Scam works, you'll be better prepared to protect yourself.

One of our employees was called on Wednesday from 'VISA', and I was called on Thursday from 'Master Card'.. The scam works like this: Caller: 'This is (name), and I'm calling from the Security and Fraud Department at VISA. My Badge number is 12460. Your card has been flagged for an unusual purchase pattern, and I'm calling to verify. This would be on your VISA card which was issued by (name of bank). Did you purchase an Anti-Telemarketing Device for \$497.99 from a Marketing company based in ?'

When you say 'No', the caller continues with, 'Then we will be issuing a credit to your account. This is a company we have been watching and the charges range from \$297 to \$497, just under the \$500 purchase pattern that flags most cards. Before your next statement, the credit will be sent to (gives you your address), is that correct?'

You say 'yes'. The caller continues - 'I will be starting a Fraud investigation. If you have any questions, you should call the 1- 800 number listed on the back of your card (1-800 -VISA) and ask for Security.'

You will need to refer to this Control Number. The caller then gives you a 6 digit number. 'Do you need me to read it again?'

Here's the IMPORTANT part on how the scam works. The caller then says, 'I need to verify you are in possession of your card'. He'll ask you to 'turn your card over and look for some numbers'. There are 7 numbers; the first 4 are part of your card number, the next 3 are the security Numbers that verify you are the possessor of the card. These are the numbers you sometimes use to make Internet purchases to prove you have the card. The caller will ask you to read the 3 numbers to him. After you tell the caller the 3 numbers, he'll say, 'That is correct, I just needed to verify that the card has not been lost or stolen, and that you still have your card. Do you have any other questions?' After you say No, the caller then thanks you and states, 'Don't hesitate to call back if you do, and hangs up.

You actually say very little, and they never ask for or tell you the Card number. But after we were called on Wednesday, we called back within 20 minutes to ask a question. Are we glad we did! The REAL VISA Security Department told us it was a scam and in the last 15 minutes a new purchase of \$497.99 was charged to our card.

Long story - short - we made a real fraud report and closed the VISA account. VISA is reissuing us a new number. **What the scammers want is the 3-digit PIN number on the back of the card.** Don't give it to them. Instead, tell them you'll call VISA or Master card directly for verification of their conversation. The real VISA told us that they will never ask for anything on the card as they already know the information since they issued the card! If you give the scammers your 3 Digit PIN Number, you think you're receiving a credit. However, by the time you get your statement you'll see charges for purchases you didn't make, and by then it's almost too late and/or more difficult to actually file a fraud report.

What makes this more remarkable is that on Thursday, I got a call from a 'Jason Richardson of Master Card' with a word-for-word repeat of the VISA scam. This time I didn't let him finish. I hung up! We filed a police report, as instructed by VISA. The police said they are taking several of these reports daily! They also urged us to tell everybody we know that this scam is happening. Please pass this on to all your family, friends and neighbors. By informing each other, we protect each other.

Good Advice about emails

A friend who's a computer expert received the following from a system administrator for a corporate system. It is an excellent message that absolutely applies to all of us who send emails. Please read the short letter below, even if you're sure you already follow proper procedures. Do you really know how to forward emails? Only 50% of us do.

Do you wonder why you get viruses or junk mail and hate it? Every time you forward an email there is information left over from the people who got it before you. Namely their email addresses and names. As the messages get forwarded along, the list of addresses build and build, until all it takes is for some poor sap to get a virus and his/her computer can send that virus to every email address that has come across his computer. Or, someone can take all of those addresses and sell or send them junk mail in the hopes that you'll go to the site and he'll make five cents for each hit. That's right, all of that inconvenience over a nickel! How do you stop it? There are several easy steps. Try the following if you aren't doing it already:

(1) When you forward an email, delete all of the addresses that appear in the body of the message (at the top). That's right, delete them. Highlight them and delete them, backspace them, cut them, whatever it is you know how to do. It only takes a second. You must click the 'Forward' button first and then you will have full editing capabilities against the body and headers of the message. If you don't click 'Forward' first, you won't be able to edit the message at all.

(2) Whenever you send an email to more than one person, do not use the To: or Cc: fields for adding addresses. Always use the BCC: (blind carbon copy) field for listing the addresses. This way the people you send to will only see their own email address. If you don't see your BCC: option click on where it says To: and your address list will appear. Highlight the address and choose BCC and that's it, it's that easy. When you send to BCC your message will automatically say 'Undisclosed Recipients' in the 'TO:' field of the people who receive it.

(3) Remove any 'FW ' in the subject line. You can rename the subject if you wish or even fix spelling.

(4) Always hit your Forward button from the actual email you are reading. Ever get those emails that you have to open 10 pages to read the one page with the information on it? By Forwarding from the actual page you wish someone to view, you stop them from having to open many emails just to see what you sent.

(5) Have you ever gotten an email that is a petition? It states a position and asks you to add your name and to forward it to 10 or 15 people or your entire address book. The email can be forwarded on and on and can collect thousands of names and addresses. A FACT: The petition is actually worth a couple of bucks to a professional spammer because of the wealth of names and addresses

contained there. Do not put your email address on any petition. If you want to support the petition, send it as your own personal letter to the intended recipient. Your position may carry more weight as a personal letter than a laundry list of names and addresses on a petition. (And don't believe the ones that say that the email is being traced, it just ain't so!)

Some of the other emails to delete and not forward are:

1. The one that says something like, 'Send this email to 10 people and you'll see something great run across your screen.' Or sometimes they'll just tease you by saying 'some-thing really cute will happen.' IT AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN! (We're still seeing some of the same emails from 10 years ago!)
2. I don't let the bad luck ones scare you, they get trashed.
3. Before you forward an 'Amber Alert', or a 'Virus Alert', or some of the other emails floating around now-a-days, check them out before you forward them. Most of them are junk mail that's been circling for YEARS! Just about everything you receive in an email that is in question can be checked out at Snopes. Just go to www.snopes.com. It's really easy to find out if it's real or not. If it's not, don't pass it on.

Another way to check if a real virus exists is to pull up Google as a web browser and type in the title of the suspect virus, ie: mad cow virus, then enter it. Google will display a number of sources that will verify it as a virus or as a hoax.

So please, in the future, let's stop the junk mail and the viruses and be a good email neighbor.