

OSWEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT



Press Release

April 2008

Prevent Identify Theft

Free Paper Shredding on May 10, 2008

FACTS:

- Identify theft is a fast growing crime in the United States.
- The average cost of ID theft to consumers can top \$6,350. It has taken some victims more than a year to restore their good names.
- Ninety percent of identity theft is from materials tossed into the trash or laying around in the open.

While you can not fully prevent identity theft you can certainly minimize the possibility of becoming a victim. By managing your personal information wisely, cautiously and with an awareness of the issue, you can help guard against **Identity Theft**. To assist in thwarting an identity thief the Oswego Police Department is partnering up with **Oswego Community Bank** and **Midwest Document Destruction** to offer a shredding service free of charge. Midwest Document Destruction out of Yorkville will be on hand to shred all important personal documents which may include but is not limited to charge receipts, copies of credit card applications, insurance forms, physician statements, checks, bank statements, expired charge cards and credit offers you get in the mail. This event will take place on Saturday May 10th from 9a.m. to 11a.m. at the Oswego Community Bank located at 10 S. Madison. You may bring up to 3 large file boxes full of papers to be shredded. Police department and bank personnel will be on hand to retrieve your personal papers and place it in the shredder while you wait. Identity theft is a serious crime. Those who are victimized spend countless hours and thousands of dollars cleaning up the mess the thieves have made of your good name and credit record. Your vigilance in protecting personal information is the key to protecting yourself.

**Protect Your Good Name by Shredding Old Documents &
Files in a high-speed Industrial Shredder!**