

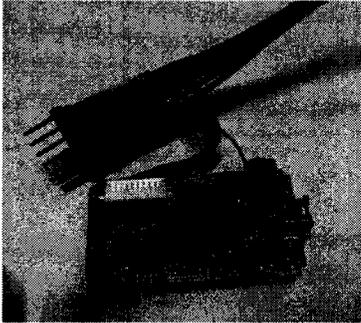


ROCHESTER POLICE DEPT. ECONOMIC CRIME\$ UNIT

Gas Pump Skimmers

Educate to Prevent Initiative 10/15/2015

Gas Pump Skimmers and What you should know.



Skimmer devices found attached to gas pumps.



Skimmer attached to pump.

The Greater Rochester Region has experienced an influx of credit and debit card information being stolen through the use of skimmer devices. One way is through the use of gas pump skimmers.

Skimmer devices can be attached to the inside of a gas pump and connected to the magnetic strip reader. Skimmed credit and debit card information is collected by the device and can be retrieved from internal memory, blue tooth, or cellular depending on type of device utilized. These devices are mounted internally and cannot be detected from visually inspecting the outside of the pump.

How to Guard Your Card against Skimming Devices:

1. The easiest way to avoid gas pump skimmer devices is to pay inside the gas station instead of at the pump.
2. When paying consider using a credit card instead of a debit card. Credit cards usually have better fraud protection and the money is not immediately deducted from your bank account.
3. If available use the closest gas pump to the attendant as they are the least likely to have been tampered with. Also, try not to use pumps that are out of the attendant's sight or poorly lit.
4. Regularly monitor your bank account and credit purchase history for fraudulent withdrawals or charges in order to detect if you have been a victim of a skimmer or other fraud.
5. Some gas stations use security stickers on pump access doors. Avoid pumps that have damaged security seals and report issue to attendant.
6. Consider using a prepaid card that you keep a limited dollar amount on.
7. When in doubt use cash when purchasing gas.
8. If you see any suspicious activity or people around the pumps please call 911 or notify the gas station attendant.