Top 8 Things Not to Give to Social Networking Sites

When using social media, use these tips to make sure that you aren't risking your identity or security.

1	**Access to your email account** - Never provide your password to your email account to a social medial site. Many fraudulent sites, services and apps will pretend to offer email enhancements in order to get access to your accounts.
2	**Your work credentials** - Never provide a work-associated email address to a social network, especially when signing up. Consider creating a new email address strictly to connect with your social networking profiles.
3	**Your precise date of birth, especially in combination with your place of birth** - Identity thieves know how to use this information to steal your identity. If you are required to give a birthday, choose a nearby date instead.
4	**Your browsing history** - It is a good practice to delete cookies when you leave a social networking site. Even if you aren't on a social network, cookies can be used to track your activities on you web.
5	**Vacation Plans –** When posting about vacation plans don't share the dates you will be away. Criminals try to take advantage of when people are away from their homes, so don't give them that information.
6	**Public posts with your address, phone number or email address** - Don't post these on a social network profile or status update. Scam artists and marketing companies are looking for this kind of information. If you do choose to post any of these, use privacy settings to restrict it to approved contacts.
7	**Compromising, sensitive, embarrassing or inflammatory pictures or posts.** Remember that whatever goes on a network might eventually be seen by people not in the intended audience. Once it is on the Internet, you have lost control – it cannot be totally deleted
8	**Money** - Be wary of requests for money, even if they are from your contacts. If a contact's account is compromised, a scam artist may use his or her name and account to attempt to defraud others through bogus money requests.