



Secure Processing Center
P.O. Box 3826
Suwanee, GA 30024

RECEIVED

AUG 09 2024

DEPT. OF CONSUMER
AFFAIRS

Postal Endorsement Line

<<Full Name>>

<<Address 1>>

<<Address 2>>

<<Address 3>>

<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>

<<Country>>

***Postal IMB Barcode

<<Date>>

Dear <<Full Name>>:

The Blue Ridge Rural Water Company, Inc. recognizes the importance of protecting information. We are writing to inform you of an incident involving some of your information. This notice explains the incident, measures we have taken, and additional steps you may consider taking in response. The incident did not involve our water management and delivery systems.

What Happened?

On July 23, 2024, we detected unusual activity within our corporate network, which is separate from our water management and delivery systems. We immediately implemented our response protocols, took measures to contain the activity, and launched an investigation. A cybersecurity firm that has assisted other companies with similar situations was engaged. We also notified law enforcement and are supporting its investigation.

The evidence showed that on July 23, 2024, an unauthorized actor viewed and obtained files stored on certain servers in our network. We conducted a careful review of the files and determined that one or more of the files contained some of your information.

What Information Was Involved?

The file(s) contained your name, Social Security number, and financial account number.

What We Are Doing.

We wanted to notify you of this incident and to assure you that we take it seriously. To help prevent something like this from happening again, we have taken and are taking additional steps to further enhance our existing security measures.

What You Can Do.

We encourage you to remain vigilant by reviewing your account statements for any unauthorized activity and immediately reporting any unauthorized activity to your bank. Additionally, we have arranged for you to receive one year of access to CyEx Identity Defense Total credit monitoring. This product is designed to detect potential misuse of your information and offers identity protection solutions aimed at promptly identifying and resolving any instances of identity theft. Activating this product will not impact your credit score negatively. For more information on identity theft prevention and CyEx Identity Defense Total, including instructions on how to activate your one year of access, as well as some additional steps you can take in response, please review the pages that follow this letter.

For More Information.

We regret that this occurred and apologize for any inconvenience. If you have any questions, please contact us at 833-215-3619, Monday through Friday, between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Sincerely,

Blue Ridge Rural Water Company, Inc.



Enter your Activation Code: [Redacted] <<Full Name>>
Enrollment Deadline: <<Enrollment Deadline>>
Service Term: 12 Months*

Identity Defense Total

Key Features

- 3-Bureau Credit Monitoring
- Monthly Credit Score and Tracker (VantageScore 3.0)
- Real-Time Authentication Alerts
- High-Risk Transaction Monitoring
- Address Change Monitoring
- Dark Web Monitoring
- Wallet Protection
- Security Freeze Assist
- \$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance**

Enrollment Instructions

To enroll in Identity Defense, visit app.identitydefense.com/enrollment/activate/brwc

- 1. Enter your unique Activation Code** [Redacted]
Enter your Activation Code and click 'Redeem Code'.
- 2. Create Your Account**
Enter your email address, create your password, and click 'Create Account'.
- 3. Register**
Enter your legal name, home address, phone number, date of birth, Social Security Number, and click 'Complete Account'.
- 4. Complete Activation**
Click 'Continue to Dashboard' to finish enrolling.

The deadline to enroll is <<Enrollment Deadline>>. After <<Enrollment Deadline>>, the enrollment process will close, and your Identity Defense code will no longer be active. If you do not enroll by <<Enrollment Deadline>>, you will not be able to take advantage of Identity Defense, so please enroll before the deadline.

If you need assistance with the enrollment process or have questions regarding Identity Defense, please call Identity Defense directly at 1.866.622.9303.

*Service Term begins on the date of enrollment, provided that the enrollment takes place during the approved enrollment period.

**Identity Theft Insurance is underwritten by insurance company subsidiaries or affiliates of American International Group, Inc. The description herein is a summary and intended for informational purposes only and does not include all terms, conditions, and exclusions of the policies described. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions.

ADDITIONAL STEPS YOU CAN TAKE

We remind you it is always advisable to be vigilant for incidents of fraud or identity theft by reviewing your account statements and free credit reports for any unauthorized activity. You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, once every 12 months from each of the three nationwide credit reporting companies. To order your annual free credit report, please visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call toll free at 1-877-322-8228. Contact information for the three nationwide credit reporting companies is as follows:

- *Equifax*, PO Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374, www.equifax.com, 1-888-378-4329
- *Experian*, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com, 1-888-397-3742
- *TransUnion*, PO Box 1000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com, 1-800-916-8800

If you believe you are the victim of identity theft or have reason to believe your personal information has been misused, you should immediately contact the Federal Trade Commission and/or the Attorney General's office in your state. You can obtain information from these sources about steps an individual can take to avoid identity theft as well as information about fraud alerts and security freezes. You should also contact your local law enforcement authorities and file a police report. Obtain a copy of the police report in case you are asked to provide copies to creditors to correct your records. Contact information for the Federal Trade Commission is as follows:

- *Federal Trade Commission*, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), www.identitytheft.gov

Fraud Alerts and Credit or Security Freezes:

Fraud Alerts: There are two types of general fraud alerts you can place on your credit report to put your creditors on notice that you may be a victim of fraud—an initial alert and an extended alert. You may ask that an initial fraud alert be placed on your credit report if you suspect you have been, or are about to be, a victim of identity theft. An initial fraud alert stays on your credit report for one year. You may have an extended alert placed on your credit report if you have already been a victim of identity theft with the appropriate documentary proof. An extended fraud alert stays on your credit report for seven years.

To place a fraud alert on your credit reports, contact one of the nationwide credit bureaus. A fraud alert is free. The credit bureau you contact must tell the other two, and all three will place an alert on their versions of your report.

For those in the military who want to protect their credit while deployed, an Active Duty Military Fraud Alert lasts for one year and can be renewed for the length of your deployment. The credit bureaus will also take you off their marketing lists for pre-screened credit card offers for two years, unless you ask them not to.

Credit or Security Freezes: You have the right to put a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, free of charge, which makes it more difficult for identity thieves to open new accounts in your name. That's because most creditors need to see your credit report before they approve a new account. If they can't see your report, they may not extend the credit.

How do I place a freeze on my credit reports? There is no fee to place or lift a security freeze. Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a security freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company. For information and instructions to place a security freeze, contact each of the credit reporting agencies at the addresses below:

- *Experian Security Freeze*, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com
- *TransUnion Security Freeze*, PO Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094, www.transunion.com
- *Equifax Security Freeze*, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, www.equifax.com

You'll need to supply your name, address, date of birth, Social Security number and other personal information.

After receiving your freeze request, each credit bureau will provide you with a unique PIN (personal identification number) or password. Keep the PIN or password in a safe place. You will need it if you choose to lift the freeze.

How do I lift a freeze? A freeze remains in place until you ask the credit bureau to temporarily lift it or remove it altogether. If the request is made online or by phone, a credit bureau must lift a freeze within one hour. If the request is made by mail, then the bureau must lift the freeze no later than three business days after getting your request.

If you opt for a temporary lift because you are applying for credit or a job, and you can find out which credit bureau the business will contact for your file, you can save some time by lifting the freeze only at that particular credit bureau. Otherwise, you need to make the request with all three credit bureaus.