

17706



Protecting our water, our land, our communities

Date

Name

Address

City/State Zip

Dear xxxx:

We are writing to let you know that the Nashua River Watershed Association (NRWA) has been notified of a data security incident at one of our vendors, Blackbaud.

Blackbaud provides fundraising and donor engagement software used by 45,000 customers including nonprofits, foundations, companies, education institutions, healthcare organizations, and other charitable giving entities. Blackbaud is not aware that data have been misused, but we are providing the notices required by the applicable statutes and regulations.

The NRWA does not collect the social security or driver's license numbers of our constituents. For constituents who have donated using a credit card, that number is fully encrypted and was not compromised. In limited cases, primarily restricted donations, the NRWA retained an image of the donation check; that practice has been discontinued. Based on the notice that Blackbaud provided to the NRWA, we have concluded that the data that may have potentially been compromised consists of images of checks from donors. Again, Blackbaud is not aware that any information has been misused.

We sincerely apologize for any concern this issue may cause you. We value your support of our mission and encourage you to contact us at nrwa@NashuaRiverWatershed.org if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lucy B. Wallace".

Lucy B. Wallace
President

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Ainsley Campbell".

Elizabeth Ainsley Campbell
Executive Director

Massachusetts General Law Chapter 93H Notice Requirements

Under Massachusetts law, you have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident. If you are the victim of identity theft, you also have the right to file a police report and obtain a copy of it.

You may also place a security freeze on your credit reports, free of charge. A security freeze prohibits a credit reporting agency from releasing any information from a consumer's credit report without written authorization. However, please be aware that placing a security freeze on your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prevent the timely approval of any requests you make for new loans, credit mortgages, employment, housing or other services. Under federal law, you cannot be charged to place, lift, or remove a security freeze.

You must place your request for a freeze with each of the three major consumer reporting agencies: Equifax; Experian; and TransUnion. To place a security freeze on your credit report, you may send a written request to each of the three major consumer reporting agencies: Equifax (www.equifax.com), Experian (www.experian.com), and TransUnion (www.transunion.com) by regular, certified or overnight mail at the addresses below. You may also place a security freeze through each of the consumer reporting agencies' websites or over the phone, using the contact information below:

Equifax Security Freeze

P.O. Box 105788

Atlanta, GA 30348

1-800-349-9960

<https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services>

Experian Security Freeze

P.O. Box 9554

Allen, TX 75013

1-888-397-3742

<https://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html>

TransUnion Security Freeze

P.O. Box 160

Woodlyn, PA 19094

1-888-909-8872

<https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze>

In order to request a security freeze, you will need to provide some or all of the following information to the credit reporting agency, depending on whether you do so online, by phone, or by mail:

1. Your full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., 11, 111, etc.);
2. Social Security Number;
3. Date of birth;
4. If you have moved in the past five (5) years, the addresses where you have lived over the prior five years;
5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility bill, telephone bill, rental agreement, or deed;
6. A legible photocopy of a government issued identification card (state driver's license or ID card, military identification, etc.);
7. Social Security Card, pay stub, or W2;
8. If you are a victim of identity theft, include a copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft.

The credit reporting agencies have one (1) to three (3) business days after receiving your request to place a security freeze on your credit report, based upon the method of your request. The credit bureaus must also send written confirmation to you within five (5) business days and provide you with a unique personal identification number (PIN) or password (or both) that can be used by you to authorize the removal or lifting of the security freeze. It is important to maintain this PIN/password in a secure place, as you will need it to lift or remove the security freeze.

To lift the security freeze in order to allow a specific entity or individual access to your credit report, you must make a request to each of the credit reporting agencies by mail, through their website, or by phone (using the contact information above). You must provide proper identification (including name, address, and social security number) and the PIN number or password provided to you when you placed the security freeze, as well as the identities of those entities or individuals you would like to receive your credit report. You may also temporarily lift a security freeze for a specified period of time rather than for a specific entity or individual, use the same contact information above. The credit bureaus have between one (1) hour (for requests made online) and three (3) business days (for request made by mail) after receiving your request to lift the security freeze for those identified entities or for the specified period of time.

To remove the security freeze, you must make a request to each of the credit reporting agencies by mail, through their website, or by phone (using the contact information above). You must provide proper identification (name, address, and social security number) and the PIN number or password provided to you when you placed the security freeze. The credit bureaus have between one (1) hour (for requests made online) and three (3) business days (for requests made by mail) after receiving your request to remove the security freeze.

The Nashua River Watershed Association, Inc. uses a fundraising and donor engagement software created by Blackbaud. NRWA's software database is hosted and secured by Blackbaud.

On July 16, 2020, NRWA received a notice from Blackbaud that stated as follows:

"In May of 2020, we discovered and stopped a ransomware attack. In a ransomware attack, cybercriminals attempt to disrupt the business by locking companies out of their own data and servers. After discovering the attempted attack, our Cyber Security team—together with independent forensics experts and law enforcement—successfully prevented the cybercriminal from blocking our system access and fully encrypting files; and ultimately expelled them from our system.

Prior to our locking the cybercriminal out, the cybercriminal removed a copy of a subset of data from our self-hosted environment. The cybercriminal did not access credit card information, bank account information, or social security numbers. Because protecting our customers' data was our top priority, we paid the cybercriminal's demand with confirmation that the copy they removed had been destroyed.

Based on the nature of the incident, our research, and third party (including law enforcement) investigation, we have no reason to believe that any data went beyond the cybercriminal, was or will be misused; or will be disseminated or otherwise made available publicly. In accordance with regulatory requirements and in an abundance of caution, we are notifying all organizations whose data was part of this incident and are providing resources and tools to help them assess this incident.

What This Means for Your Organization Specifically

Our public cloud environment (Microsoft Azure and Amazon Web Services) and most of our self-hosted datacenters, products and customers were not part of this incident, but we have confirmed the following specific to your organization:

- A copy of your Blackbaud NetCommunity and Raiser's Edge backup was part of this incident. Again, the file the cybercriminal removed a copy of did not contain any credit card information. Further, the cybercriminal did not gain access to bank account information, usernames, passwords, or social security numbers stored in your database because they were encrypted. None of your data was lost or corrupted as a result of this incident.

And again, based on the nature of the incident, our research, and third party (including law enforcement) investigation, we have no reason to believe that any data went beyond the cybercriminal, was or will be misused; or will be disseminated or otherwise made available publicly. We have hired a third-party team of experts to monitor the dark web as an extra precautionary measure. "