#### NOTICE OF DISCLOSURE INCIDENT



July 26, 2022



# Dear

I am writing to make you aware of an incident involving a potential exposure of your personal information. Below you will find details of the incident, steps the Worcester Natural History Society, Inc., dba EcoTarium ("EcoTarium"), has taken to protect your information, and measures we are taking to help protect your personal information and prevent similar incidents going forward.

# What Happened

On May 24, 2022, a fax sent from the EcoTarium that was intended for an authorized third-party insurance vendor was inadvertently sent to the fax number of an unauthorized party. The fax included certain sensitive information detailed below.

At this point, we are not aware of any misuse of your information. We are notifying you out of an abundance of caution and to provide you with a credit monitoring service to further protect your personal information.

#### What Information Was Involved

The information inadvertently disclosed contained information gathered as part of normal business operations, which we recently determined included your Name plus one or more of the following: Home Address, Driver's License Number, and Date of Birth.

#### What We Are Doing

EcoTarium immediately took steps to secure the information, including contacting the recipient and the intended recipient. We have determined that there was no additional personal information impacted by this incident. We continue to evaluate security measures to prevent similar unintended disclosures in the future.

In addition, we engaged Experian to provide credit monitoring services at no cost to you. Details of this offer are stated below.

#### What You Can Do

I recommend reviewing the attached document outlining steps you can take to protect your personal information.

call: 508.929.2700 fax: 508.929.2701 web: www.ecotarium.org post: 222 Harrington Way, Worcester, MA 01604

As an additional protection, the EcoTarium is providing access to Experian's® IdentityWorks<sup>SM</sup> identity and credit monitoring service at no cost to you. To activate the service and start monitoring your personal information please follow the steps below:

- Ensure that you enroll by: 10/31/2022 (Your code will not work after this date.)
- Visit the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: https://www.experianidworks.com/credit
- Provide your activation code:

Please note that a credit card is not required to enroll in Experian IdentityWorks.

Once you enroll in Experian IdentityWorks, you can contact Experian immediately regarding any fraud issues, and have access to the following features:

- Experian credit report at signup: See what information is associated with your credit file. Daily credit reports are available for online members only.\*
- Credit Monitoring: Actively monitors Experian, Equifax and Transunion files for indicators of fraud.
- Identity Restoration: Identity Restoration specialists are immediately available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.
- Experian IdentityWorks ExtendCARE<sup>TM</sup>: You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- Up to \$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance\*\*: Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

If you have questions about the product, need assistance with identity restoration or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at 877.890.9332 by 10/31/2022. Be prepared to provide engagement number as proof of eligibility for the identity restoration services by Experian.

If you have any questions regarding this credit monitoring service, please contact the dedicated member support hotline at 877.890.9332. If you have questions regarding this incident, please call me at (508) 929-2722 or visit my office.

Sincerely,

Noreen Smith

President & CEO

\* Offline members will be eligible to call for additional reports quarterly after enrolling

\*\* Identity Theft Insurance is underwritten and administered by American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida, an Assurant company. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions.

### Steps You Can Take to Further Protect Your Information

## Review Your Account Statements and Notify Law Enforcement of Suspicious Activity

As a precautionary measure, we recommend that you remain vigilant by reviewing your account statements and credit reports closely. If you detect any suspicious activity on an account, you should promptly notify the financial institution or company with which the account is maintained. You also should promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidence of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, your state attorney general, and/or the Federal Trade Commission.

To file a complaint with the FTC, go to www.ftc.gov/idtheft or call 1-877-ID-THEFT (877-438-4338). Complaints filed with the FTC will be added to the FTC's Identity Theft Data Clearinghouse, which is a database made available to law enforcement agencies.

## Request a Copy of Your Credit Report

You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies once every 12 months by visiting http://www.annualcreditreport.com, calling toll-free 877-322-8228, or by completing an Annual Credit Report Request Form and mailing it to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348. You can print a copy of the request form at https://www.annualcreditreport.com/cra/requestformfinal.pdf. Or you can elect to purchase a copy of your credit report by contacting one of the three national credit reporting agencies. Contact information for the three national credit reporting agencies for the purpose of requesting a copy of your credit report or for general inquiries is provided below:

Equifax 800-685-1111 www.equifax.com P.O. Box 740241 Atlanta, GA 30374

Experian 888-397-3742 www.experian.com 535 Anton Blvd., Suite 100 Costa Mesa, CA 92626

TransUnion 800-916-8800 www.transunion.com P.O. Box 6790 Fullerton, CA 92834 Place a Fraud Alert You may consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report. An initial fraud alert is free and will stay on your credit file for at least 90 days. The alert informs creditors of possible fraudulent activity within your report and requests that the creditor contact you prior to establishing any accounts in your name. To place a fraud alert on your credit report, contact any of the three credit reporting agencies identified above. Additional information is available at http://www.annualcreditreport.com.

#### Institute a Security Freeze

You may have the right to put a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, so that no new credit can be opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate a freeze. A credit freeze is designed to prevent potential credit grantors from accessing your credit report without your consent. If you place a credit freeze, potential creditors and other third parties will not be able to get access to your credit report unless you temporarily lift the freeze. Therefore, using a credit freeze may delay your ability to obtain credit. There shall be no charge for a security freeze. Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a credit freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company. Please contact the three major credit reporting companies as specified below to find out more information:

Equifax: P.O. Box 105788, Atlanta; GA 30348, www.equifax.com Experian: P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com

TransUnion LLC: P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA, 19022-2000, freeze.transunion.com

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., II, III, 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.

You can obtain more information about fraud alerts and credit freezes by contacting the FTC or one of the national credit reporting agencies listed above. The contact information for the Federal Trade Commission is as follows:

Federal Trade Commission 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580 www.ftc.gov/idtheft 877-ID-THEFT (877-438-4338) For Rhode island residents: The contact information for the state Attorney General's office is as follows:

Office of the Attorney General 150 South Main Street Providence, Rhode Island 02903 401-274-4400 http://riag.ri.gov

### Right to Obtain a Police Report

For Massachusetts and Rhode Island residents: You have the right to obtain a police report if you are a victim of identity theft.

# Additional Free Resources on Identity Theft

You may wish to review the tips provided by the Federal Trade Commission on how to avoid identity theft. For more information, please visit http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft or call 1-877-ID-THEFT (877-438-4338).