

Swampscott police warn Residents of debit card scam

Item Staff Report

Swampscott Police are warning residents that several banks in the area have reported a phone scam which asks customers for their debit card number.

“We are advising our customers that this request is a scam and (they) should not provide their account/debit card information,”

An alert forwarded by Swampscott Police detectives said.

According to the alert, Eastern Bank’s Corporate Security Department received information that several customers, Non-customers and employees had received “robo-calls” — or an automated phone call — purporting to be from Eastern Bank.

The call featured a pre-recorded message saying that the recipient’s Eastern Bank MasterCard has been compromised and asking the recipient to enter his or her debit card number.

There may also be a similar call which asks the customer to enter his or her debit card number to activate it.

The calls are automated and not from the bank, according to the alert, and are being used with the intent to defraud the customer.

Police said that Sovereign Bank, Bank of America and Citizens Bank are also targeted in the scam.

By Dave Collins

Associated Press

It has been reported by Caggiano plaza residents that they have received these calls as well. I myself also received this call!

Be sure to disregard these calls. DO NOT be tempted to follow the instructions and DO NOT enter any of your account information as instructed by the automated caller.

Remember, if you did not make the call to the bank, you have no way to ensure that the caller is who he says he is – even if it sounds completely legitimate.

If you receive such a call, HANG UP immediately and call your bank!

If you have any questions, feel free to call Michelle D'Amico@
781-581-8734

Thank you!