Grinch-Proof Your Holiday Shopping

More than $265 million was reported lost due to shopping-related cyber-scams, according to a study by the FBI.

Don’t let a cyber-grinch ruin your holiday; follow these tips for a secure shopping experience this season.

When making purchases, check for URLs that begin with “https” and include a “lock” icon in your browser to ensure the site is secure.

Check your bank and credit card statements regularly to confirm purchase amounts or quickly spot any unauthorized charges.

Be wary of “confirmation” e-mails; if it’s not a product or service you remember purchasing, it may be a phishing attempt.

For more tips on protecting yourself during the holiday shopping season, visit www.ic3.gov/media/2011/111121.aspx.

Bookmark the Computer Security Web page at www.it.northwestern.edu/security/