Security Alert--Yahoo! passwords

August 3rd 2016.   IT Right is issuing a security alert concerning *Yahoo.com* and *Yahoo! email* accounts. If you have a yahoo email account; IT Right recommends changing all your online passwords.

Trusted technical sites, and reputable news organizations are reporting an apparent breach of security at Yahoo! It is currently estimated that as many as 200 million yahoo accounts have been compromised; and the usernames, passwords and dates of birth are being sold by various nefarious organizations.

At this time, Yahoo! has yet to confirm any breach, and is officially still investigating. Still, IT Right is recommending that anyone who has or has had a Yahoo! account within the last few years change their passwords.

Password Best Practices.

1) Do not re-use passwords.   Recent data breaches at LinkedIn and MySpace indicate that these usernames/email addresses & passwords are sold as a database that is then used in attempts to hijack other online accounts. Using the same password across multiple sites is very dangerous.

*2) **Retire your password.***   It is quite likely that the actual breach (assuming one occurred) happened some time ago.   So switching to your other old favorite password is likely not safe either.   Retire those favorite passwords, and come up with something completely new.

*3) **High Security Areas.***   You should have high security areas in your digital life. Passwords for Banking & Financial Sites, and **Work Networks**....should be kept completely unique, and more complex than normal.

*4) **Password Complexity.*** Use a phrase or more than one word.   Use at least 8 characters, alternate case, and use numbers or special characters like ( ) ` ~ ! @ # $ % ^ & * - + = | \ { } [ ] : ; " ' < > , . ? /

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