

To Shred or Not To Shred?

Can someone legally dig through your trash looking for credit card receipts, account numbers, or your social security number?

The U.S. Supreme Court implies that the answer is yes. In the decision California vs. Greenwood, they stated that the “expectation of privacy in trash left for collection in an area accessible to the public is unreasonable.”

In other words, when you throw something in the trash, it is available to anyone willing to overlook the disgusting smells and textures of your trash can. What should you shred?

- Investment, stock and property transactions
- Items with a signature (leases, contracts, letters)
- Luggage tags
- Medical and dental records
- Papers with a Social Security number
- Pre-approved credit card applications
- Receipts with checking account numbers
- Report cards
- Resumés
- Tax forms
- Transcripts
- Travel itineraries and Used airline tickets
- Utility bills
(telephone, gas, electric, water, cable TV, Internet)
- Address labels from junk mail & magazines
- ATM receipts & Bank statements
- Birth certificate copies
- Canceled & voided checks
- Credit & charge card bills, carbon copies, receipts
- Credit reports & histories
- Documents containing maiden name
- Documents containing names, addresses,
phone numbers or e-mail addresses
- Documents relating to investments
- Documents containing passwords or PIN numbers
- Driver's licenses or items with a driver's license number
- Employee pay stubs/Employment records
- Expired passports and visas
- Unlaminated identification cards
(college IDs, state IDs, employee ID badges, military IDs)
- Legal documents

If you have questions about what you should shred or how long you should hang on to documents before shredding please contact our office and

Join us for our Shred Day
Saturday, May 5, 9-11 a.m.

3001 E. Camelback Rd. Phoenix 85016

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