

Manage Your Credit Cards Better

U.S. consumers are once again increasing their collective credit card debt, which now exceeds \$1 trillion.

The Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility and Disclosure (CARD) Act protections, which went into effect in February 2009, require card issuers to disclose rates and other information more clearly. This should make it easier for consumers to monitor what they owe. But, regulations can't prevent people from making poor debt management habits.

During the "season to spend" here is some advice for controlling credit card use:

- Actively manage your account. Open and examine your credit card statements promptly. Look for unauthorized use, of course, but also look for announcements from the issuer. Under the new rules, you must have 45 days' notice of a change in your card's terms, such as an interest rate increase. If you choose to "opt out" of the change, you no longer will be able to add new charges to your card, and will want time to get a replacement while you pay off the old balance.
- Keep your credit score healthy. This number between 300 and 850 is a measure of your trustworthiness as a borrower. The higher your score, the easier it is to get a loan and, often, the more favorable the interest rate. The most important ways to maintain and improve

your credit score is by paying all your bills on time and not taking on excessive debt.

- Watch your card balance-to-limit ratio. It's OK to occasionally "max out" your credit card for important purchases, as long as you can pay it off in a few months. But over the long term, try to keep your total credit card debt to a reasonable 10% to 20% of your total credit limit. If the ratio gets much above 20%, and you can handle the payments, ask for a higher limit on your current card or get another one. Don't add new cards too often, though, and

don't close several unneeded accounts in a short period—either move can lower your credit score.

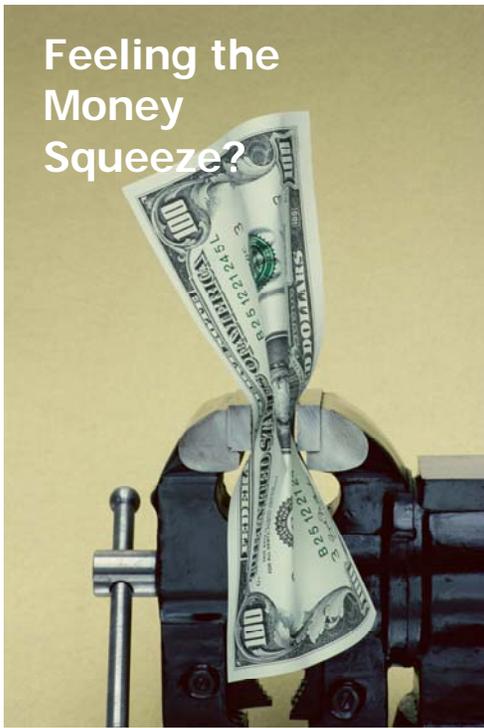
- Understand the overlimit option. The CARD Act allows you to choose what you want your card issuer to do when you try to go over your card's credit limit. If

you "opt in," you can go over the limit for a fee. If you "opt out," your attempt to go over the limit will be declined.

If you don't already have a San Tan CU credit card, now's the time to get one. We offer credit cards at great rates: A fixed rate as low as 9.9% APR, no balance transfer fees, no cash advance fees and no annual fee. Contact us at 480-963-5661 for details.



Feeling the Money Squeeze?



Free up your cash when you Skip-A-Payment on your STCU loan.

Skipping your payment does not impact your payment record or credit score. STCU simply advances your due date by one month and extends the term of your loan. For example if your remaining loan term is 36 months, you would make 36 payments over 37 months. And it's an easy process, download a form from our website at www.santancu.org.

San Tan CU lobby hours:
Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday, Thursday:
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



2018 Upcoming Holidays

Christmas
Monday December 24—close @ 12 p.m.
Tuesday December 25—closed.
New Year
Monday December 31—close @ 12 p.m.
Tuesday January 1, 2019—closed.

Receiving an automatic deposit, tax refund or direct withdrawal to your account via ACH to your San Tan CU account?

- Our routing and transit number is: 322172069
- Use your base member number. If you are looking at your printed checks, drop the last digit from your account number.
- Make sure to designate checking or savings.

If you have questions, call us here at the credit union and we will be happy to answer any questions for you.



78 West Ray Road, Suite 1
Chandler AZ 85225
www.santancu.org

Phone: 480-963-5661
Fax: 480-963-3574
Email: info@santancu.org
San Tan CU's Routing & Transit:
3221-72069

Wire Transfer Instructions:

Receiver Depository Institution:
Catalyst Corporate FCU
ABA/Routing & Transit # 311990511

Beneficiary Financial Institution:

San Tan Credit Union
322172069

Beneficiary
Your name & account number



@SanTanCU

Happy Holidays From The San Tan CU Family



Your San Tan CU Board of Directors: Standing: Dennis Bushong, Joel Wirth, Rob Gillis, Steve Galas. Seated: Susan Horan, Laura Metcalfe.
Not Pictured: Kevin Fagan.

