

National "Do Not Call" Registry

Despite attempts to stop it, the Federal Trade Commission is operating its National Do Not Call Registry to reduce unwanted telemarketing calls.

Here's how to register:

1.) Call 888-382-1222 from the telephone number you want to register and follow the instructions. You must call from the number you wish to register and yes, you can register on a cellular telephone.

2.) You can also register up to three telephone numbers online, including cellular telephones, at www.ftc.gov/donotcall

The sooner you call, the soon you'll see a reduction in calls. It takes approximately three months and then the number of telemarketing calls should be drastically reduced. If you have trouble getting through, try calling early in the morning.

Remember, political organizations, charities and survey companies are NOT included in this so you still need to be cautious about giving information over the telephone.

Never give personal information on an unsolicited call or push numbers on your keypad because someone tells you they are "checking" your telephone line.

One final caution: The National Do Not Call Registry is a free service of the U.S. government so if you get a call or mail from anyone offering to "help" you register, IT'S A SCAM. Don't cooperate with these crooks by giving them any information about yourself.