

# HARVEST BANK

Fall/Winter 2020

## National Cybersecurity month, a fun quiz, and prizes!

Scams, like phishing attacks, fake check scams, credit and loan offer scams, are not just an increasing threat to “vulnerable” individuals, any identifiable internet user must be wary of them. The problem is only increasing along with our collective internet use.

You (yes, you!) can educate yourself to avoid common pitfalls that many of these scams employ. This October, as part of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, the American Bankers Association (of which Harvest Bank is a member) has created a user-friendly and fun campaign, focusing on key information hackers want, and the ways they ask for it.



We invite you to take five minutes to become a scamspotter pro by taking the #BanksNeverAskThat quiz, linked from our homepage (click on the scrolling banner for #BanksNeverAskThat, at [www.harvestbankmn.com](http://www.harvestbankmn.com)). There’s even an optional sweepstakes. And you can share your score with your friends and family, and encourage them to test their scam savviness, too. All the info is found on our website, or at <https://www.banksneveraskthat.com>. The more scamspotters out there, the harder it is for phishing criminals to catch their next victim!

Many of the facts, videos, and quizzes will also be posted on our bank Facebook page, “Harvest Bank MN”. Please, check out these resources this month, and let us know if they’re helpful by commenting on our Facebook or contacting us directly at the bank!

## WHEN WILL WE OPEN OUR FRONT DOORS AGAIN?

We do not have an answer to that question right now. It appears that, as of this writing, the country as a whole is experiencing a spike in COVID cases and at this point in the “season” has experienced 3 times as many COVID virus cases as is usual for an entire year. With colder weather coming on that is likely to increase even further as many activities migrate from outdoors to indoors. The incidence of infection varies quite a bit by state and even by county – the Worthington area (Nobles County) in SW Minnesota has the highest per capita rate in the state because of the pork plant there. Other counties, such as the ones we are in (Stearns, Kandiyohi) also have a higher rate than elsewhere.

Because of this we are keeping our front doors shut for the time being. However, we are making frequent exceptions for those who need to come inside to access safe deposit boxes (still one of the best deals around), open or modify new accounts, sign loan documents and transact any other bank business that cannot be done thru the drive up window. We do ask you to wear masks when doing so – if you don’t have a mask with you we can supply one. As you can imagine wearing a mask under normal circumstances is not something we encourage for those entering the bank.

Thank you for your consideration and be assured that we are working very hard to keep everyone safe within our ability to do so. We expect to return to normal as soon as this virus is brought under control.

## Good Coin

Give to your favorite charities: [harvestbankmn.com/give](http://harvestbankmn.com/give). It’s easy to set up a free account; the site is very cost effective for donors, and rest-assured, these are legitimate, Guidestar-vetted charities. Find info on charities both locally-based and around the nation; and, utilize the free account to download your donation history on an ongoing basis.

75 North Main Street  
Kimball, MN 55353  
(320)398-3500

24952 County Road 7  
St. Augusta, MN 56301  
(320)251-6100

222 Atlantic Avenue W  
Atwater, MN 56209  
(320)974-8861

321 Pacific Avenue  
Kandiyohi, MN 56251  
(320)382-6100

## Banks Build Minnesota Initiative

Harvest Bank sponsored meals for local First Responders in September in all four of our host communities, out of gratitude for their service especially during the pandemic. Pictures of many of these dedicated individuals are shown below:



## Home Loans That Work For You

Our offices have been very busy lately with not only purchases but also refinancing of home mortgages. Rates are at record lows; 30-year fixed mortgages are as low as 2.875% APR\*. Rates are likely to go up as the economy starts to recover, so if you are thinking of refinancing or purchasing it is best to act soon.

In addition to our long term financing up to 30-year fixed programs, we also do VA, Rural Development and FHA loans. If you prefer to keep your loan serviced locally by Harvest Bank we are able to accommodate that as well, this way you will always know we are only a phone call away.

Not much has changed with applying for a mortgage with Harvest Bank during the COVID 19 pandemic, we are only a phone call away. We are still allowing customers to come inside the bank and meet with one of our mortgage lenders by appointment as we want the experience to be a good one for all.

Our approval process is quick and painless, we aim for 1-2 business day loan approvals. There are some items though that you can bring along to make your approval process faster.

- Two most recent pay stubs
- W2s from the past two years
- Self-employed, commissioned, seasonal work, or rental income; last two years Federal tax returns
- Bank statements for the past two months (accounts with Harvest Bank are not required)
- Driver's License

Additional documents needed on refinances:

- A current mortgage statement
- Homeowner's insurance policy information
- Home equity account information (if applicable)

Our turnaround time to close will depend upon whether or not your loan request will need an appraisal as some refinances and purchases are not requiring an appraisal. However, if your loan does need one we are still closing within 45-60 days, if no appraisal required these are closing within 30 days.

Harvest Bank's mortgage department is growing as we have so many products and programs to offer you for your real estate needs, with knowledgeable and easily accessible lenders. They will be there during and after your loan process to answer your questions and concerns if any come up along the way.

*\*As of September 22, 2020. Rates depend upon loan amount, term, credit score and purpose. Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is based on a current market rates, and the following terms: loan amount of \$200,000, credit score of 740, 20% down payment and a monthly payment of \$818.48. Payment does not include taxes and insurance; actual payment obligation will be greater; if mortgage insurance is required, the premium could increase the APR and the monthly payment. Rates are based on property type, loan amount, loan-to-value, credit score and other variables. This is not a credit decision or a commitment to lend. Loans serviced in house may have a balloon payment depending on the term.*

### - ATM Fees - Tips and Tricks

ATM fees are on the rise generally; a single stop for cash can cost you \$3 or more in fees; that can add up to hundreds of dollars per year! Here are three ways to tackle that problem, with your Harvest Bank debit card:

1. Find a Privileged Status (surcharge-free) ATM near you at <https://www.shazam.net/ATMs/>.
2. Open a Kasasa Cash® or Kasasa Cash Back® checking account with us, qualify for the rewards in a given month, and get up to \$25 refunded on ATM withdrawal fees, nationwide (up to \$25 monthly/maximum \$3 per transaction).
3. OR, ask for cash back at the store, and save a bundle! Simply ask for cash back when you use your debit card for purchases at retail stores! Cash back from a retailer is surcharge-free.