



Direct deposit: a safe and fast vehicle you can use to drive your savings



It's no secret that direct deposit saves you time and eliminates the risk of lost or stolen paychecks, travel reimbursements, tax refunds, interest payments, pension checks and Social Security checks. But did you know that it also might help improve your savings progress?

A recent survey found that individuals who use direct deposit save an average of \$90 more per month than those who make deposits manually.¹ In addition, the vast majority of people (96 percent) who already use direct deposit have had a positive experience with it.² Here are some other benefits of direct deposit:

- It gives you access to your money earlier than paper check deposits. If your account earns interest, a direct deposit starts to add interest for you sooner.
- It's confidential. Money is transferred electronically and passes through fewer hands than a check. Problems are rare and are usually resolved quickly.

Follow this procedure

Contact your employer's payroll department to see if direct deposit is available. If it is, you can authorize your employer to send a specific amount or your entire net paycheck into your TruGrocer Federal Credit Union shares or share draft account. To set up direct deposit, you need TruGrocer FCU's routing and transit number (3241-7246-5) to direct a deposit or payment to your account. If you want to place a direct deposit or payment in your share draft account, please provide a voided check.

While you're at it, you also might want to arrange for automatic electronic payment of your recurring bills. Call your branch office or visit www.trugrocer.com and streamline your finances today.

¹Source: NACHA, The Electronic Payments Association™ 2007, from survey conducted in late 2006.

²Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury, October 23, 2007.

Receipts no longer required for small debit-card transactions

Up until recently, a federal law mandated that you be given a receipt every time you make an electronic fund transfer, such as when you buy something with your debit card — regardless of the transaction amount. But as of August 6, 2007, the law was changed so that a transaction of \$15 or less no longer needs to be accompanied by a receipt.

It's the Federal Reserve Board's way of trying to speed up small-dollar transactions at point-of-sale terminals and automated teller machines (ATMs). The Fed revised Regulation E, also called the Electronic Fund Transfer Act. After months of hearing the pros and cons of issuing receipts for small-dollar transactions, the Fed concluded that their benefits are minimal for the following reasons:

- You are less likely to need a receipt for small purchases due to the limited risk of loss.
- Even without a receipt, you have other means to track your finances.

For example, you can access information on specific transactions before receiving your periodic statement from TruGrocer Federal Credit Union. Just call the **Electronic Teller (E.T.)** at (800) 392-3328 or use **CU OnLine** to view your account and receive free **eStatements** via the Internet. To register for **CU OnLine**, visit www.trugrocer.com and click on the "CU OnLine Signup Form."

Attend your annual meeting – March 20

TruGrocer Federal Credit Union is owned by you and other members, so plan to attend your annual meeting Thursday, March 20, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Boise, Idaho. Call (208) 385-5200 or e-mail info@trugrocer.com for details. See you in Boise!

Home Equity Line of Credit from TruGrocer fits your needs

Did you know that nearly one in five homeowners have a home equity line of credit (HELOC)? Convenient and flexible, a HELOC is a revolving line of credit secured by the equity in a home. Best of all, the interest on a HELOC may be tax deductible up to 100 percent.¹



You can use the money whenever you need it for just about any purpose: an improvement to your home, a college education, a new or used car, a dream vacation, refinancing high-interest debt and more — the decision is yours. A HELOC can also serve as an emergency reserve you can tap when unforeseen financial shocks occur.

Refinancing high-interest debt may be particularly important this time of year with credit card bills arriving after your holiday spending. You can use a HELOC to consolidate these debts and typically create a single lower interest loan.

With a HELOC from TruGrocer, you can borrow up to 90 percent of the assessed value of your home (minus any first mortgage) or 80 percent of assessed value, whichever

is less.² You can withdraw funds up to a predetermined amount and make monthly payments based on the actual amount withdrawn.³ You gain access to more funds again as you pay down your line of credit.

Additional terms and conditions are disclosed with your HELOC application. Visit www.trugrocer.com or call your branch office to learn more or apply for a home equity line of credit.

¹Consult a tax professional concerning the deductibility of interest paid.

²Texas borrowers are limited to 80 percent of assessed value (minus any first mortgage) or 50 percent of assessed value, whichever is less.

³The interest rate is variable, equal to the Prime Rate and can change monthly. The term is 180 months and the draw period is 60 months. The payment is amortized monthly based on the balance, annual percentage rate and remaining term with a \$100 minimum.

Your New Year's resolution: Contribute to an IRA in 2008

The value of individual retirement accounts is at an all-time high — and it's easy to understand why when you consider their many advantages. For 2008, their popularity will likely increase even more because contribution limits are going up, allowing you to sock away even more money for retirement.

This year, the maximum IRA contribution limit is \$5,000 (\$6,000 if you are age 50 or older). That's \$1,000 more than the comparable 2007 limits. IRA earnings grow without current taxation and contributions to a traditional IRA may be tax deductible. Contributions to a Roth IRA are not deductible, but withdrawals typically are tax-free if certain conditions are met.¹

TruGrocer Federal Credit Union has two IRA shares accounts to choose from: **the Traditional Individual Retirement Account** and **the Roth/Roth Conversion Individual Retirement Account**. Contact your branch office for details or visit www.trugrocer.com and get your 2008 savings program off to a good start.

¹Roth IRA withdrawals before five years of participation may be subject to federal income taxes. Traditional IRA withdrawals generally are subject to ordinary income taxes. Traditional or Roth IRA withdrawals prior to age 59½ may be subject to a 10 percent federal tax penalty. Certain exceptions apply.

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FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

(as of October 31, 2007)

Members	38,393
Assets	\$207,315,422
Loans	\$79,653,545
Shares	\$164,808,541



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