

May 2016

PRIVACY AWARENESS MONTH



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PRIVACY MATTERS!

"Privacy has never been more relevant. A society without privacy has lost an essential freedom of the individual." - Dr Elizabeth Coombs, NSW Privacy Commissioner

Privacy Awareness Week (PAW) is an annual initiative of the Asia Pacific Privacy Authorities (APPA), of which the Office of the NSW Privacy Commissioner is a member. APPA is the principal forum for privacy authorities in the Asia Pacific Region to form partnerships and exchange ideas about privacy regulation, new technologies and the management of privacy enquiries and complaints.

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner NSW has been a supporter of this initiative for many years. Since its inception, PAW has grown and is held yearly to promote and raise awareness for numerous privacy issues and the importance of protecting personal information.

As a part of PAW, The Office of the NSW Privacy Commissioner hosts, and takes part in, events and activities for individuals, businesses and organisations.

This year, Privacy Awareness Celebrations have grown so large the event will be held throughout the month of May!

This year's Privacy Awareness Month theme for NSW is **'Privacy and You'** and is about protecting your personal information and understanding your rights and responsibilities under current privacy legislation. With the popularity of smartphones, mobile apps and using online services on the rise it is important to know what privacy settings are available and help keep you safe and informed.

This year, Privacy Awareness Month and Information Awareness Month fall at the same time! The Office of the Privacy Commissioner, IPC will be celebrating both - recognising the interconnection between good information management and privacy governance. The theme for Information Awareness Month 2016 is "Investing in Information Governance".



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