

# 6 Ways You Can Use a Personal Loan this Summer

Summer can be super-expensive. Before you start swiping the plastic for it all, though, consider a personal loan from AgFed. With competitive rates and member-friendly terms, we're here to support you every step of the way.

We have outlined several ways to help you responsibly use a personal loan this summer.

## **Getting married**

If you're tying the knot this summer, consider taking out a personal loan. Use it to fund larger wedding expenses, like your ring, wedding dress and venue, or to cover the smaller costs like the flowers and photographer.

## **Funding a move**

With the kids out of school, summer can be an ideal time for household moves, but moving costs can be prohibitive. Taking out a personal loan to help cover the costs can make your household move a lot less stressful.

## **Consolidating debt**

Paying off multiple loans and credit card bills each month can be challenging. Plus, you might feel like you're not making headway on your debt thanks to high interest

rates. A personal loan could help simplify your finances with one low-interest debt to pay down.

## **Funding a dream vacation**

Are you dreaming of a luxury summer vacation like a trip abroad, but you don't have the money to pay for it? It can still happen with the help of a personal loan. You'll have a payment plan you can afford, and you'll finally be free to enjoy the getaway you've been dreaming of for years.

## **Renovating your home**

Whether you want to give your kitchen a makeover or turn your garage into a guest suite this summer, a personal loan can make it possible. This is especially true if you don't have a lot of equity in your home and would not be a good candidate for an equity loan.

## **Funding medical expenses**

If there are medical procedures you've been pushing off because they're not covered by your health insurance plan, consider a personal loan for getting it done this summer.

If you can use a Personal Loan, contact us to ask how you can get started on your loan application. We're always here to turn your dreams into reality!



THE  
SHEAF

Summer 2024

## CONTACT US

**24/7 Member Services:**  
(202) 479-2270

**24/7 Online Banking**  
www.agfed.org  
Email us: members@agfed.org

**24-hour Loan by Phone:**  
(888) 451-LOAN (5626)

**24-hour Telephone Banking:**  
A.R.T. (Audio Response Teller):  
(202) 488-3130 or (800) 872-2328

**Mailing Address:**  
P.O. Box 2225, Merrifield, VA 22116-9998

**USDA South Building Branch**  
1400 Independence Ave., SW, RM SM-2  
Washington, DC 20250

**George Washington Carver Center Branch**  
5601 Sunnyside Ave., RM 1-1180  
Beltsville, MD 20705

**Riverdale Branch**  
4700 River Road, RM 1C09  
Riverdale, MD 20737

*Credit Union Service Centers  
are available nationwide.*

## Updates coming soon to Online Bill Pay and the A.R.T. system.

Online Bill Pay will be upgraded in August for a better member experience.

The A.R.T. (Audio Response Teller) system will be upgraded in August with new features to enhance your banking experience.

More information will be available soon.



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## CHAIRPERSON'S CORNER

# Safeguarding Your Financial Information



As we welcome the summer months, it's important to stay vigilant against potential fraud that increases during this time of year. Scammers often exploit the relaxed atmosphere and busy schedules that come with vacations and outdoor activities. At AgFed, your financial security is our top priority, and we're committed to helping you safeguard your personal information and finances.

An increasingly concerning issue that many financial institutions are experiencing is account takeover fraud. Account takeover fraud occurs when a fraudster gains unauthorized access to your account, often through tactics such as phishing, malware or exploiting weak passwords. Once they have access to your account, they can steal your funds, make unauthorized transactions and potentially compromise your personal information.

Here are some steps you can take to prevent your account from takeover fraud:

- Use strong, unique passwords combining letters, numbers and special characters.
- Be extremely cautious of emails, texts, phone calls or computer pop-ups requesting personal information or urging immediate action.
- Verify the legitimacy of any urgent or suspicious communication by contacting us directly. We will never ask you for your login credentials or to withdraw or transfer funds.
- Regularly check your accounts for any unauthorized transactions or suspicious activity.
- Frequently update your devices such as phones, tablets and laptops to make sure that they are up to date with the latest security patches and antivirus software.

We want to assure you that AgFed is committed to safeguarding your financial information and providing you with the tools and knowledge to protect yourself against fraudulent activities. Thank you for your continued trust in us. Enjoy your summer with peace of mind, knowing that we're watching out for you.

Sincerely,

Elard J. Phillips, Chairperson