



THE BERKSHIRE BANK

The Bank that puts your interest first

The Berkshire Bulletin

Financial New Years Resolutions

The New Year is an ideal time to set new goals of any kind - why not some financial New Years resolutions! Taking control of your personal finances will help you to save for the future, and prepare for unforeseen expenses.

It's Time to get Organized, Folks!

Organize your financial documents and information with alphabetized file folders. While you're getting organized, perhaps buy a shredder to keep your personal information secure and safe from identity theft.

Create a Personal Budget

Track your income and expenses to see how much money you are earning and how much you spending. There are many budgeting options, such as computer software programs or basic budgeting worksheets to help create your personal budget. Make sure to track your progress and see in which areas you might be able to spend less, and save more. Budgeting for savings is of key importance too, see what you can afford to set aside each day, month, or week, and stick to it! Remember, set realistic goals!

Saving For Your Future

Saving for your future is important - you can help to ensure that you will be prepared for unforeseen future expenses. Know that it is never too early to begin saving!

If your employer offers it, enrolling in a retirement plan is a wonderful way to save. Many banks offer Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). If you receive direct deposit at work, ask your employer to send a specific amount to your savings account with each paycheck, ensuring that the money is set aside into an account before you even have a chance to spend it! In today's economy, it is sensible to maintain a few months' salary in a savings account in case of financial emergencies.

For full details on all our products and services, please consult our website at www.berkbank.com and search for Account Agreement and Disclosures and our Schedule of Fees and Service Charges.

Member FDIC