The following slides were taken from an excellent guest lecture by David Aucsmith (Sr. Director Microsoft Institute for Advanced Technology in Governments) in the University of Washington Computer Science and Engineering course CSE 484 (Winter 2013). This cover slide was added by the course staff.

Friendly Advice

Protect yourself from a new Adobe attack

- In Adobe Reader: Edit > Preferences > Categories > Trust Manager > PDF File Attachments
- Uncheck the box that reads "Allow opening of non-PDF file attachments with external application"
- Edit > Preferences > JavaScript
- Uncheck the box that says "Enable Acrobat JavaScript"

Create a separate banking user on your PC

- Change IE's Internet safety setting to high
- Then only use this banking user when logging into your bank

Install an AV product and keep it current

- You could use Microsoft Security Essentials for free
- http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows/products/security-essentials

Given all the credit card skimmers

- I would not use or own a debit card
- "Reg E"

Friendly Advice

Guard against ATM card skimmers

- Look for skimmers
- Learn to key your PIN blind

Upgrade your home Wi-Fi network to WPA2

Use a good firewall product

If you have children

- Use Windows Live Family Safety or similar
- http://download.live.com/familysafety

Install Win 7 ! (or soon Windows 8)

Use IE 9 or similar

Do not use an account with Administrator privileges

- Create another account for normal day-to-day PC activities

Friendly Advice

Considering using OpenDNS

- OpenDNS has phishing and parental filtering at the DNS level
- http://www.opendns.com/homenetwork/solutions

Considering using Secunia's PSI

- Checks that all your software is up to date
- http://secunia.com/vulnerability_scanning/personal/

Consider using Sophos Anti-Rootkit

- Scans for hidden programs if you think you are infected
- http://www.sophos.com/products/free-tools/sophos-anti-rootkit.html

Consider running Microsoft Safety Scanner

- Scans for hidden programs if you think you are infected
- http://www.microsoft.com/security/malwareremove/default.aspx