

# WORLD BACKUP DAY

## MARCH 31

*Don't be an April fool! Back up your data and devices.*

### Why are backups important?

**UW APS 2.6 states:**



"University of Washington shall...appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and **availability** of institutional information that it creates, receives, maintains, or transmits."

A failure to back up data could lead to **unavailability** of institutional information; impact the work of students, faculty, and staff; and cause reputational harm to the University.

### What are the threats to data and devices?



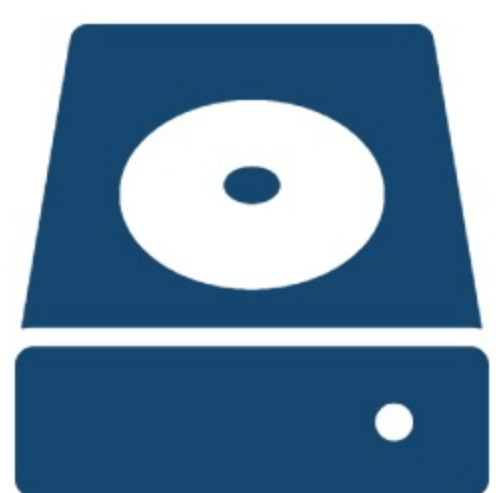
#### **Lost and stolen devices**

A major cause of breaches is exposure of data on lost or stolen devices. Backing them up will help determine what data is at risk.



#### **Ransomware**

Cybercriminals can lock up your files and make them inaccessible until a sum of money is paid. Sometimes they fail to unlock the data even if the ransom is paid.



#### **Hard drive & hardware failures**

It's a hard fact: hard drives fail! Keep important data backed up on an external or network drive.



#### **Earthquakes & other disasters**

Multiple copies of files, devices, and systems will speed up recovery after natural disasters and other catastrophes.

### Should I back up data just one day a year?

# NO!

March 31 is a day of awareness to back up your data and devices frequently. Every day if you wish!

### What to do



Back up all data and devices that you are responsible for.



Use multiple methods or formats to back them up.



Ensure that at least one backup is not connected to your computer, as backups that are connected can become infected by ransomware and viruses.

### RESOURCES

UW Administrative Policy Statement 2.6, Information Security Controls and Operational Practices  
Malware and Ransomware Risk Advisory, <https://ciso.uw.edu/education/risk-advisories/malware-and-ransomware/>