

SURVIVAL SKILLS

Social Security and You

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Mt. Morris, NY 14510

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If you have a job and earn money, you need a Social Security number. You can get a Social Security card with your number at your local Social Security office. You will have one number all your life.

Your employer will take Social Security taxes from your wages. You then earn credits toward collecting Social Security. You will need to work at least ten years to be eligible for benefits when you retire. You can receive benefits as early as age 62. Your benefits depend on your age and work history.

To apply for your card you will need to show proof of your age (birth certificate, hospital or baptism records) and identification (driver's license, insurance or medical records, etc.) If you are not a United States citizen, you will need to show your birth certificate or passport and papers from the INS (Immigration and Naturalization Service).

Remember: Make sure your Social Security record shows your correct name and your correct Social Security number.

For more information:

Call 1-800-772-1213

or check the Social Security web site: www.ssa.gov

