

## 12 months to a 720 Credit Score

presented by  
[www.EZQualDreamHomes.com](http://www.EZQualDreamHomes.com) and Swiftcurrent Investment Group

### July Newsletter

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This Month's Topic:

***Just Like the Government, We too Should Get Our Debt Under Control***



#### ***Your Bonus Monthly Tips:***

Websites you should have saved and use:

- Pull Your Own Credit with Free [E-Book](#)
- Opt Out of Pre-Approval Offers [Opt Out Pre-Screen](#) and it is effective for 5 years
  - [www.FTC.GOV](http://www.FTC.GOV) save it on your favorites list. This if the Federal Trade Commission

I hope your summer is cruising along in an enjoyable fashion.

I read a pretty good article in the Gazette this weekend and I thought I would share some of the ideas with you.

We are proud of our future home buyers that have been our tenants for over a year now and they have met their goal of becoming home owners. Tamella and Ullrich got approved for financing. They have been in our program just over a year and have done a fantastic job!

The age old saying has been "Don't spend more than you have". Not really rocket science right?

Well that seems to be the biggest Ooops! we make in our financial spending. The paper ways that consumer debt was \$11.5 Trillion at the end of the first quarter this year. That means that Americans have again piled on more credit card debt in the month of April of this year than in any month in the past 3 years.

I don't think that is the way we intended things to go.

These spending binges have to get under control before we can really start to see our finances improve.

The paper compares us to the government and suggests attacking debt and getting a handle on spending.

This is a hard thing to do, but it is possible. It is very hard for a government to take us seriously when we say let's get this under control when at home we are spending like crazy.

There are smart things to use credit or get in debt with and there are silly things. You want to make sure your decisions are sound; well thought out and over time the best for you and your family.

Our goal is to make your life easier by helping you understand what this all means and how to improve your scores in the easiest possible way so that you and your family will benefit by saving money and spending it where you choose.

*Every newsletter builds on the previous one but each one on its own covers a topic that is important with regards to credit, financing, savings and home ownership that will assist you in becoming a successful and knowledgeable home owner.*

There has been a lot of heat this summer and there are resources to use for taking care of your yard.

Here are some FREE Tips for your yard:

FREE MULCH : The city's free sites have been combined into one: the city Forestry Office, 1601 Recreation Way, north of Uintah Street off of Glen Avenue ,

north of Monument Valley Park. The mulch is filled every Friday and sometimes during the week.

There are two other locations that take tree limbs and yard waste but in some cases there is a charge and/or a food donation for either dropping it off or picking up mulch:

Here is the website for more info: [FREE Mulch](#)

Another great resource for xeriscape ideas in your yard is: Colorado Springs [Xeriscape Garden](#)

They say to manage debt is often avoiding certain things  
Here are 5 things that will help:

1. Keep your Total Debt Under Control
2. Know what Your Credit Report says and How it Affects You
3. Good Debt
4. Don't Buy Something on Credit that will Linger On and On
5. Read the Fine Print

Let's go through the list:

**1. Total Debt Control-** you want to keep your total debt so that it is NO more than 40% of your gross income. The Federal Reserve uses this as a indicator of financial stress. Housing- including a mortgage should account for no more than 30% of your take home pay. That leaves your car payments and credit cards to equal no more than 20% of your total take home. So that means half of your income is gone and you haven't even gotten home from work yet! You still need to eat, put gas in the car and buy an occasional birthday gift. You don't want to stretch yourself too thin. Always know your limits and what you need to stay within

**2. Know what Your Credit Report says and how it Affects You.** Good Credit and a Job are so important in any tight economy. If you get this you will be golden through the good and the bad. Remember landlords, employers (even for promotions) look up your credit before they make their final decisions. Your credit is a direct reflection of you and how responsible you are.

Remember that the only place you should be pulling your own credit from is:

[www.AnnualCreditReport.com](http://www.AnnualCreditReport.com)

(AND THIS IS THE ONLY WEBSITE YOU SHOULD EVER USE!)

All the other websites that say they are free may give you a free credit report but then they sell your information and can reactivate old collections. The one listed above is the only website that the federal government authorizes and is confidential.

**3. Good Debt is still debt.** You must remember that. Mortgages and student loans are considered good debt because they are investment. That does not mean you should have the highest mortgage or rack up student debt . You need to be able to handle your monthly payments for these debts and pay them on time. If you do, your credit is much stronger, but it has to be a manageable amount. And that may mean being okay with less, not needing the biggest and the best and finishing something that you start.

**4. Don't Take on Credit Card Debt that will Linger** - Don't just make minimal payments....that will get you no where fast. You want it to pay down quickly, not put money towards the interest payments. The average credit card interest rate right now is 14.42% and that adds up over time. So...not including mortgage and card payments and credit card debt should be paid off with in 12-18 months NOT 23 years!

**5. Read the Fine Print-** Fees can be a huge and cause a lot of financial problems if you don't know the rules. Always pay on time. Banks and financial institutions make up revenue with fees. That means over the limit fees, late fees

When you follow these simple rules you will find your finances going in the right direction.

There is no question that this is hard...just ask the Federal Government, State Government and City Government.

Start doing it at home and maybe it will rub off down the line! Enjoy the rest of your summer.

**Tips for this month to keep in mind:**

1. Always make more than minimal payments. Your goal should be to pay things off within 12-18 months if you had to put it on credit.

2. Always read the fine print. Know the rules of engagement

3. Avoid user fees, late fees, over limit fees. They add up!

*When you become a tenant home buyer in our future home buyers program, You are a will be the proud future home owner of your home.*

*When you are accepted into our program; you will be responsible for caring for your home, making your monthly payments on time and improving your credit so that you can get financed through monthly online classes, quarterly in house classes, mortgage specialists assigned to you and personal friendly assistance.*

*Other Happy Clients*

*Our rent to own program gives you complimentary online classes each month to assist you with credit and finance information, plus in house classes each quarter with specialist, plus one on one time with a mortgage specialist.*



Dedicated to improving your credit and making you a home owner,

*Lori*

*Swiftcurrent Investment Group, LLC*

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