



YOUR SPRING WATER WELL NEWS!

888-395-1033 [wellcare® Hotline](mailto:wellcare@Hotline)
www.wellcarehotline.org

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Dear Well Owners Network Member,

Welcome spring! Spring is the perfect reminder that it is time to maintain your well, septic, and treatment systems. This newsletter is full of great information to help you do just that. As always, if you have questions on any of these topics, the wellcare® Hotline can help. Contact the wellcare® Hotline at 1-888-395-1033.

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national
groundwater

awareness week
March 9-15, 2014

Groundwater is important as it supplies the water in your well! As precipitation falls, this water seeps into the soil downward to fill cracks and openings in rock and sand. Your well pumps this water into your well to supply your home. Groundwater Awareness Week reminds us to

Discount! **Water Testing Kits** *from*



Environmental Testing & Research (ETR) Laboratories continues to offer discount water testing kits!

Ordering is easy! [View details](#) for online ordering or call (800) 344-9977.

Important!

When contacting the lab, simply identify yourself as having been referred by Water Systems Council.

When ordering online, use the coupon codes at [ETR website](#) to receive your discount.



take care of groundwater and your water well system. [Read more](#)

Fix a Leak Week March 17-23, 2014



Nationwide, more than 1 trillion gallons of water leak from U.S. homes each year. WaterSense reminds us to check plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems each year during Fix a Leak Week. Pledge to be for water during Fix a Leak Week and learn how to fix those leaks! [Read more](#)

INSPECT YOUR WELL

Like any large appliance in your home, you should also create a maintenance plan for your water well system. Inspecting your well system is the first step. Inspect your wellhead several times a year. Check the condition of the well covering, casing, and well cap to make sure all are in good repair, leaving no cracks or other entry points for potential pollutants. Have the well system, including the pump, storage tank, pipes and valves, and water flow inspected every 10 years by a qualified well contractor or pump installer. If you have no inspection record and cannot determine the age of the well, have it inspected immediately by a water well professional. [Read more](#)

TEST YOUR WATER

To keep your well water clean and pure and your well operating at peak performance, regular

Disinfecting Your Well Video. This video includes visual step-by-step instructions to go along with our updated information sheet on Disinfecting Your Well. Keep an eye on our website and social networks for the release of the video.

wellcare® Hotline



Q: My power is on and pump is running, but I have no water. We are in a warm climate and just had a few days of freezing temperatures. Could my system be frozen?

A: Yes, it is possible your well system is frozen. If you do not have a pitless adapter, check with your water well professional to see if one can be installed to prevent freezing. If you have a submersible pump, there could also be a leak in the

water testing is an important maintenance tool. Private well owners are solely responsible for the quality of their drinking water. So it is up to you, the well owner, to decide when and how to test your water.

At a minimum, your water should be tested every year for bacteria, the most common water quality problem. Other tests may be required, depending on where you live and what is located near your water. Test more than once a year in special situations: someone in the household is pregnant or nursing; there are unexplained illnesses in the family; your neighbors find a dangerous contaminant in their water; or there is a spill of chemicals or fuels into or near your well. [Read more](#)

Contact your local health department, cooperative extension service office, state environmental agency or the wellcare® hotline at 1-888-395-1033 for other water testing guidelines and to find a state certified water testing laboratory in your area.

Discount test kits are also available through Environmental Testing & Research Laboratories. [View their website for more information.](#)

WATER TREATMENT

First, it is important to note that most well water is a safe, reliable drinking water source for you and your family. Water treatment may not be necessary. Some contaminants may be more of a "cosmetic" issue (odor, discoloration, etc.) and may not present any health risks. Test your water before installing any water treatment device.

If you have a water treatment system, follow the inspection and maintenance schedule provided by your water treatment device manufacturer or water systems professional. [Read more](#)

Contact your water treatment professional for further assistance.

system piping, a clog within the lines, the pump could be air-locked, too low of water level in the well, or there could be an issue with one of the components. In any case, contact your water well professional immediately for an inspection and to make any repairs.

Q: What distance should my well be from my septic system?

A: Your well should be at least 50 feet from your septic system and drain field. However, you should contact your local or state health department to learn what the requirements are in your area.

YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

Approximately 20 percent of U.S. households rely on onsite wastewater systems to dispose of waste water on their property. Homeowners with both wells and septic systems must take care to maintain these systems in order to insure the purity of their drinking water.

Just like your well, you should inspect the septic tank each year for capacity and leaks. Have your tank pumped out as needed, usually every three to five years, based on the number of people in the household and the size of the tank. Repair the tank or drainfield system as needed to prevent leaks of bacteria and nutrients into groundwater. [Read more](#)

Contact your septic service professional for assistance.



DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR WELL?

Contact the **wellcare® Hotline**
1-888-395-1033.

Previous newsletters with additional tips can be found [on our website](#).

WSC has over 90 different wellcare® information sheets that can help you and your family learn more about managing a water well and protecting your water supply. Visit our [website](#) or contact the wellcare® Hotline at 888-395-1033.

 Forward to a Friend

STAY CONNECTED

