



SPRING 2026

wellcare® Hotline: [888-395-1033](tel:888-395-1033)

Dear wellcare® Well Owners Network Member,

Winter has loosened its grip, and spring is officially calling the shots. As the thaw sets in and the rains arrive, your water well system is waking up right along with the season. It's time to grow your water well knowledge and give your well, water treatment system, and septic system a little well-earned attention.

Spring is when small problems can turn into costly surprises. The upside? A few smart checks and simple maintenance steps now can mean cleaner water, fewer repairs, and peace of mind all year long. This issue delivers no-nonsense tips to keep your entire system working together like a dream team - protecting your water and your wallet!

If you have questions regarding these topics, if you cannot find what you're looking for, or if you have any other questions on wells and well water, the [wellcare® Hotline](tel:888-395-1033) can help! Contact the [wellcare® Hotline](tel:888-395-1033) at 888-395-1033 or wellcarehotline.org. Don't forget to follow us on social media: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Linktree](#), [Pinterest](#), [TikTok](#), [X](#), and subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#) for videos, extra tips, industry news, and more!

Thank you for trusting us as your water well resource!

Grow Your Water Well Knowledge



Spring is more than blooming flowers and warmer days; it's prime time for water well maintenance. As the ground thaws and seasonal rains arrive, your private well system can be affected by shifting soil, increased surface water, and winter wear and tear. A little attention now can go a long way in protecting your water quality and keeping your system running smoothly throughout the year.

Your well is tough, but not invincible. That's why spring is the perfect time to start with an annual visual check. Take a few minutes to look over your wellhead and the surrounding area. Make sure the well cap is secure and undamaged. Check for any cracks or openings that could allow insects, rodents, or contaminants to enter. Look around the wellhead for standing water or debris, especially after heavy rains. Keep the wellhead at least 12 inches above grade, or as required by local or state codes. These simple observations can help you spot potential issues before they become costly problems.

Good maintenance also includes practicing smart habits throughout the season. Store chemicals, fuel, and fertilizers at least 100+ feet away from your well to reduce the risk of contamination. Keep the area around the well clear, no landscaping, décor, or planters that could trap moisture or interfere with access. Make sure surface water drains away from the well so runoff doesn't pool around the casing. These small steps help protect your water supply from preventable contamination.

While homeowners can handle routine visual checks and basic upkeep, **it's important to recognize when professional help is needed**. Call your licensed well contractor if you notice sputtering faucets or low pressure, sediment, cloudiness, or color changes in your water, or odd tastes or odors. If it's been 5+ years since a full inspection, spring is a great time to schedule one. Your water well professional can assess the condition of your system and address issues safely and effectively.

⚠️ Pro Tip: Never attempt well repairs yourself unless you're licensed. Working on a well system without proper training and equipment can pose safety risks and potentially damage your water supply. Find well pros near you using our [interactive map](#).

📄 Check out our [Well Maintenance information sheet](#) for more guidance and keep scrolling to find tips on water testing, treatment system checks, and septic system awareness.

Need backup? The [wellcare®](#) Hotline is here with real people and real answers.

☎️ 888-395-1033 | 🌐 [wellcarehotline.org](#)

Follow us on social media for weekly [wellcare®](#) reminders! Find all our social media pages on our [LinkTree](#).

Time to Find Out What's in Your Water 🧪



Spring brings ground thawing, rain, and runoff, which can affect your well water. It's the perfect season to check what's in your water and stay ahead of potential issues. From bacteria to nitrates, pH shifts, and heavy metals like arsenic, lead, or iron, knowing what's present helps protect your family and your home. Depending on your location, you might also need to keep an eye on emerging contaminants like PFAS, pesticides, or VOCs.

Water testing isn't just a one-time task; it's a way to track changes over time. You should also test your water after unusual events like flooding or well repairs, or anytime your water changes taste, smell, or appearance. Testing can be done through certified labs, professional services

like [Tap Score](#), or with at-home kits for quick screenings and emergencies. You can find a list of [certified water testing labs here](#).

💡 Pro Tip: *Keep a record of your test results to help spot trends, monitor levels, and identify issues early.*

For more information on well water testing, explore our collection of trusted resources designed specifically for private well owners. You'll find [interactive learning modules](#), [downloadable brochures](#), and [detailed information sheets](#) that provide everything you need to understand your water, interpret test results, and make informed decisions about your household water supply.

💧 Filters Don't Change Themselves

It is important to note that not all wells need treatment. This section is for homes that do.

If your home uses a water treatment system, regular maintenance is key to ensuring safe, clean water and optimal performance.

General maintenance reminders:

- Sediment filters: every 3 to 6 months
- Water softeners: check salt monthly
- RO systems: pre-filters 6 to 12 months; membranes 2 to 5 years
- UV systems: replace bulbs annually

Warning signs to watch for:

- Bad taste or odor returns
- Staining or scale buildup
- Reduced pressure or slow flow

📅 Pro Tip: *Follow your manufacturer's schedule and keep service records handy.*







👉 View our [Water Treatment information sheet](#) for system-specific tips.

Hotline Hot **Topic: Snowmelt & Heavy Rains**

Each spring, the hotline hears from well owners concerned about cloudy water, odd tastes, or sudden changes following snowmelt and heavy rains. As the ground thaws and becomes saturated, seasonal moisture can carry surface contaminants closer to your well, especially if drainage or well components are compromised.

Here's what to watch for this spring:

-  Cloudy or muddy water after storms
-  New odors or unusual tastes
-  Changes in water pressure
-  Pooling water around the wellhead

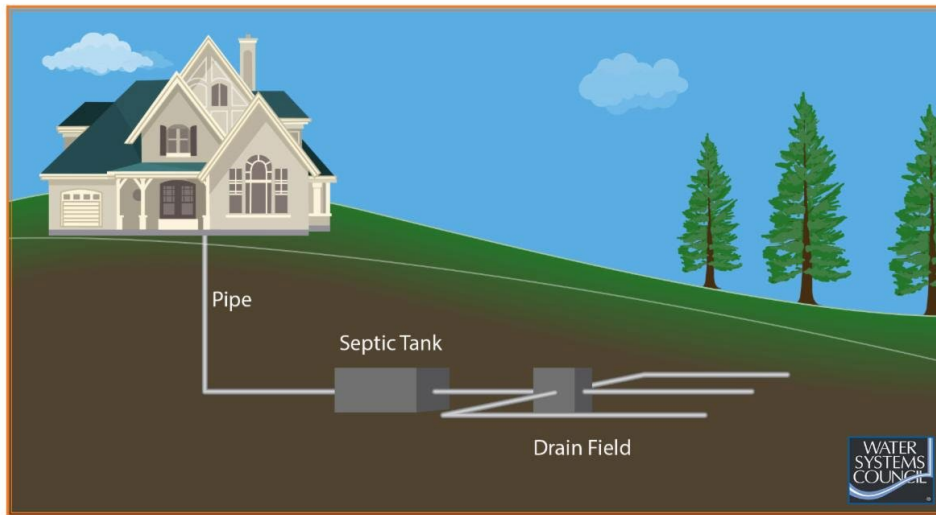
Staying on top of the well and septic maintenance recommendations in this newsletter can help reduce your risk. If you notice any of these warning signs, contact a licensed water well contractor for an inspection.

Pro Tip: Your monthly visual well check is an important habit, but it's not a substitute for a professional inspection.

Have a water well question? Ask [wellcare®](#)

 bit.ly/askwellcare

🏠 Out of Sight Is Not Out of Mind



The image provides a general overview of a conventional septic system and is not intended as an installation guide. Check local codes.

Your septic system and your well are closely connected. When a septic system struggles, it can contaminate your well water. Spring is a smart time to make sure both systems are working as they should.

🌸 **Spring septic best practices:**

- Pump every 3 to 5 years (or as recommended)
- Use water efficiently to avoid overloading the system
- Flush only toilet paper and human waste

▶ **Red flags to watch for:**

- Slow drains or gurgling sounds
- Odors near the drain field
- Soggy soil or standing water

🔧 **Distance matters: Septic systems should be at least 50 feet from your well (always check local codes).**

☀️ **NEW THIS SPRING:** Our **Septic System Owner's Manual** is launching soon!


Available in digital and hard copy. It's your go-to guide for septic basics, maintenance schedules, and long-term system care.

Kidz Korner: (For Grown-ups, Too!)

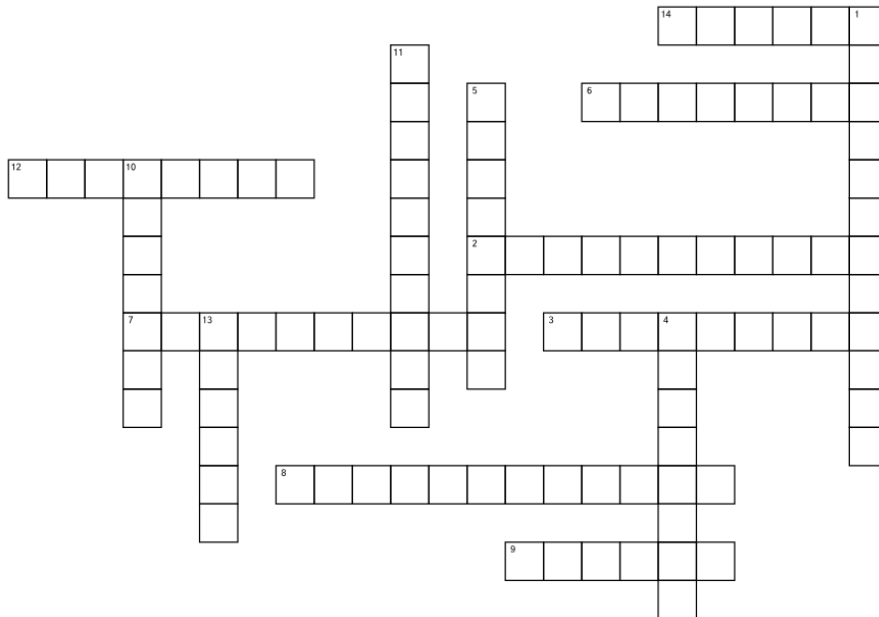
Spring Maintenance Crossword Challenge

Think you know your well system? Put your knowledge to the test with our special spring edition crossword puzzle! This fun activity is a great way to help kids (and grown-ups!) learn the basics of well care while celebrating the season of spring maintenance.

Print a few copies and turn it into a family challenge. See who can finish first, who gets the most correct answers, or work together as a team to solve it. It's a simple way to start conversations about how your water gets from the ground to your home, and why taking care of your well matters.

Ready? Let's get puzzling! 

[Click the image to print!](#)



Across:

2. Taking care of something so it works well
3. Cleaning water to make it safe
6. Plant food that can get into water
7. A careful check by an expert
8. Someone trained to do a job well
9. Things like iron or lead
12. Tiny living things you need a microscope to see
14. When a tank is emptied

Down:

1. Killing germs in water
4. Happening once every year
5. Small bits of dirt or sand in water
10. Checking to see if something is safe
11. Using a filter to clean water
13. A tank underground that holds wastewater



Still Have Questions?

We can help! Call the **wellcare**® Hotline at **888-395-1033**, **[complete an online form](#)**, **[send us an email](#)**, or **[chat with us live!](#)**

Connect with us



Water Systems Council | 1101 30th Street, NW Suite 500 | Washington, DC 20007