



**WINTER 2024**

**wellcare® Hotline: 888-395-1033**

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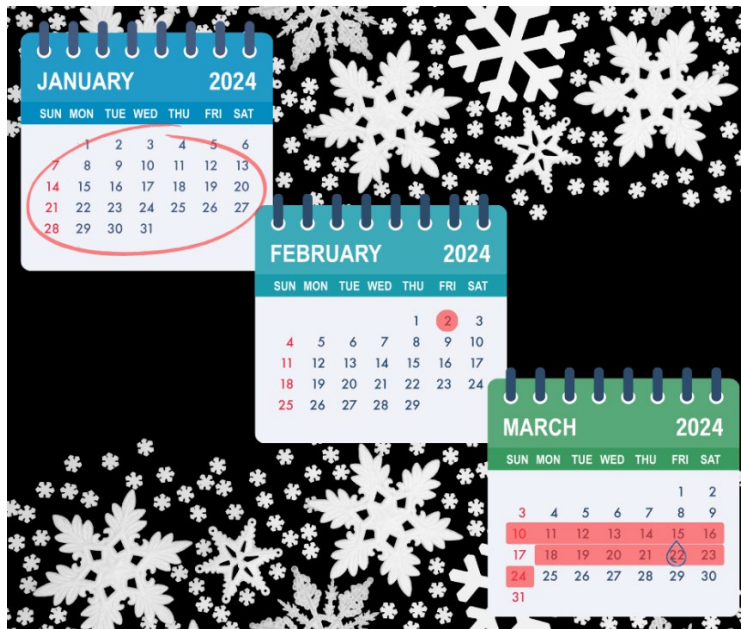
Dear Well Owners Network Member:

Happy New Year to all our [wellcare®](#) Well Owners Network members! Our wish for the new year is that you have a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2024! We are grateful that you are joining us for another year! This newsletter will cover upcoming water-related holidays and events, National Radon Action Month, de-winterizing (hey, it will be here before you know it!), well financing, a frozen bubble activity for the kiddos, and updated information sheets you can download for free!

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 can help! Contact the [wellcare®](#) Hotline at 888-395-1033 or [wellcarehotline.org](#). Don't forget to like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) for extra tips, industry news, and more!

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## Upcoming Water Related Events



### **National Radon Action Month – The whole month of January!**

Did you know that the highest Radon levels typically occur during the months that we heat our homes? Find out more about Radon in the next section of this newsletter!

### **World Wetlands Day – February 2**

This day dates back to 1971 but wasn't celebrated until 1997. This day brings awareness to all the wonderful things wetlands have and can do for humans and many other organisms! For more information, check out their website.

### **National Groundwater Awareness Week – March 10-16**

The week was established in 1999 to promote stewardship of groundwater. How do you protect groundwater and your private water well?

### **Fix-a-Leak Week – March 18-24**

Household leaks can waste more than 1 trillion gallons of water annually! EPA's WaterSense encourages you to find and repair those pesky leaks to [#savewater](#).

### **World Water Day – March 22**

An annual day that highlights the importance of fresh water. The day is used to advocate for the sustainable management of freshwater resources.

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to see how you can participate!

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## It's that time of year again, January is National Radon Action Month!



Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that has no color, odor, or taste. It comes from the breakdown of radioactive elements like uranium and radium in the ground. The soil under your home releases radon which can make its way through cracks or openings in your home and sometimes through well water. High levels of radon are commonly found in certain kinds of bedrock such as granite and dark shale. Radon can be inhaled when it is released from water while showering, washing

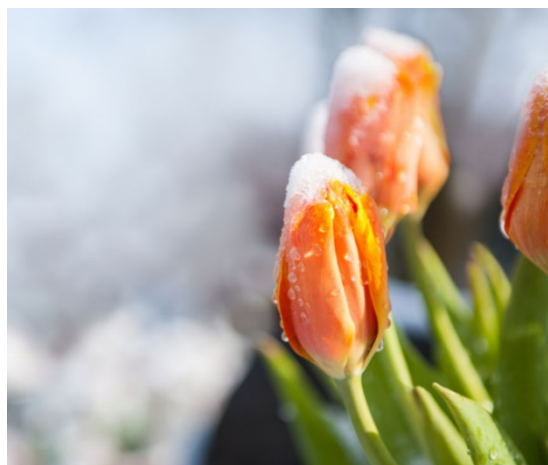
dishes, or cooking. It can also be ingested directly through drinking water. Research shows that inhaled radon is the greatest concern as it increases the risk of lung cancer. Drinking water contaminated by radon may raise the risk of stomach cancer.

There is good news though! Radon exposure is completely preventable! Click [here](#) to learn more about radon. Find a [certified lab in your area](#) for both **air and water radon testing**.

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## De-winterizing - It's \*almost\* Time to Chill Out

When your home is supplied by a private well system, there are additional steps that need to be taken in order to de-winterize your well components. WSC recommends contacting a licensed well contractor to perform the de-winterization process. If you have a plumber who de-winterizes your home, confirm they are also certified in water wells. If you must de-winterize on your own, there are some important things you need to know.



Read through our [Winterizing and De-winterizing Your Well](#) information sheet before getting started.

Just keep in mind that there are still a few months until freezing weather subsides. You can find some tips on well system and pipe freeze prevention in our [Protecting Your Pipes and Well System From Freezing](#) information sheet.

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## Hotline HOT Topic: Financing a Well

Finding extra cash when emergency home repairs occur isn't easy. Water is a daily necessity that most of us don't think about. We use it to shower, brush our teeth, wash our hands, flush toilets, water plants, hydrate and bathe our furry friends, make coffee, do laundry...the list goes on and on.

Water Well Trust may be able to help if you're currently experiencing a financial hardship and need to repair your well or drill a new one. To see if you are eligible for assistance through WWT, [start here](#) or call 1-833-539-8200.

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## Kidz Korner: ❄️ How to Make Frozen Bubbles 🫧



This one is fun for everyone!

*NOTE: The temperature must be below 32 degrees Fahrenheit for the bubble to freeze, with best results in extreme cold weather 9-12 degrees Fahrenheit.*

**What you'll need:**

- Bubble solution - If you can't find any at the store you can make your own! Combine 4 cups of distilled water, 1 cup of regular Dawn or Joy dish soap, and ¼ cups of glycerin (light corn syrup can substitute for the glycerin). Stir this up well and let it rest for 24+ hours before using.
- Bubble wands - You can also use straws, twisted pipe cleaners, zip ties, etc.

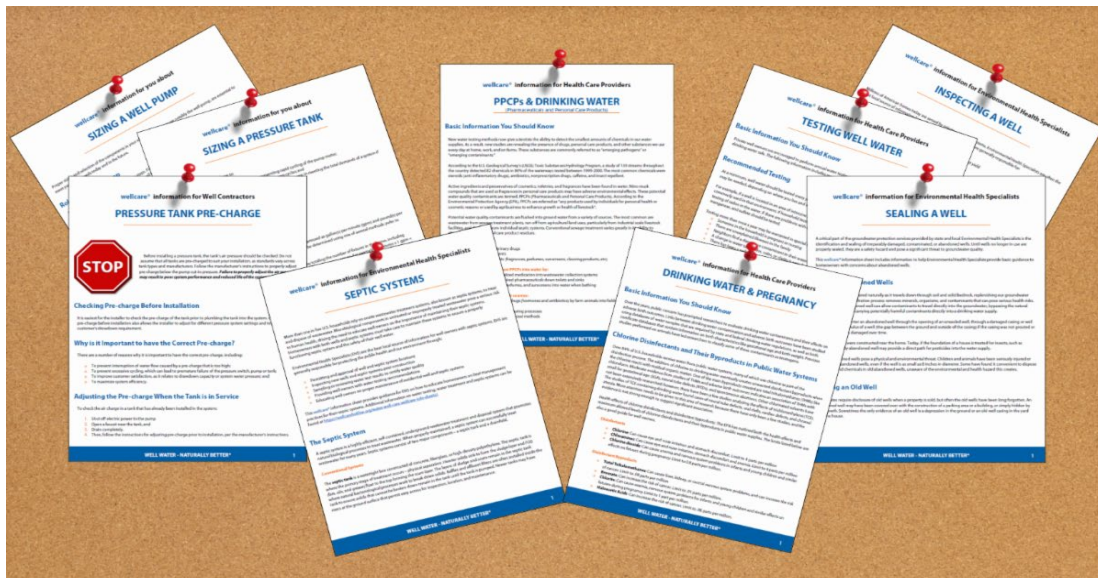
*TIP: Save the homemade solution for other bubble adventures! DO NOT put it down the drain or flush it into your septic system.*

### Instructions:

1. Gather the bubble making supplies and wands.
2. Bundle up and go outside and blow bubbles! The gentler the bubbles are blown, the more likely they will freeze and won't pop.
3. Have fun!!!

Adapted from <https://www.firefliesandmudpies.com/frozen-bubbles/>

## Updated Information Sheets



We have been busy updating our [wellcare](https://www.wellcare.org)<sup>®</sup> information sheets. Pictured above are just a few topics that have been updated. All information sheets are available on our website as a complimentary download. Visit [wellcarehotline.org](https://www.wellcarehotline.org).



## 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!](#)

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