

How to Choose a Quality Geothermal Contractor

Choosing a geothermal heating and cooling system for your home may be the most important comfort decision you make as a homeowner. HomeWorks Tri-County Electric Cooperative wants you to be happy with your decision. This comparison checklist will help you choose the best contractor for the job.

DEALER 1:

DEALER 2:

DEALER 3:

Dealer has demonstrated experience:

	DEALER		
	1	2	3
Has installed more than 20 geothermal systems.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has been in business for more than five years.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provided a list of references (make sure to check references!).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dealer is certified and trained in:

Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA) Manual J and Manual D.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Loop design and installation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dealer is a member of:

An industry group, such as the Michigan Geothermal Energy Association.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better Business Bureau, in good standing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a state Mechanical License.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dealer:

Performed a heat loss / heat gain calculation to size the equipment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Designed the system to maintain a minimum indoor temperature of 70°F when the outdoor temperature is 0°F (winter heating).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Designed the system to maintain a maximum indoor temperature of 75°F when the outdoor temperature is 95°F (summer cooling).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Designed system to maintain (without auxiliary heat) an indoor temperature of 72°F when outdoor temperature is between 0°F and 10°F.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provided an estimate of the annual operating costs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asked about your future plans for additions or remodeling.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provides a 24-hour emergency service.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dealer discussed the following topics:

Advantages and disadvantages of open- and closed-loop systems.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Importance of sizing the well, pump, and tank on an open-loop system.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Location of the closed-loop system.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air changes per hour, insulation, and minimizing air infiltration.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Importance of proper duct design.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Importance of properly balancing the system.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operation and maintenance of the system.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Manufacturer warranty.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dealer warranty.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Utility programs and energy rates.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Additional costs (electrical upgrade, landscaping, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Financing options.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BOXES CHECKED

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