



Help in Choosing a Quality Geothermal Contractor

Choosing or replacing a heating and cooling system for your home may be one of the most important decisions of your home-ownership experience.

Geothermal heating and cooling systems are proven to be the most efficient, comfort delivering systems on the market. However, if you choose the wrong contractor you may not get all the benefits of a geothermal system due to improper design, sizing or installation.

The Iowa Geothermal Association is comprised of members who want you to be completely satisfied with your decision to install geothermal heating and cooling. This comparison checklist will help you choose the best geothermal contractor for your dwelling. After all, it's a decision you will live with for a very long time!

Dealer name #1 _____

Dealer name #2 _____

Dealer name #3 _____

	Dealer		
	#1	#2	#3
Check the boxes that apply:			
➤ Dealer has previously installed geothermal systems for how many years: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Dealer has been in business for how many years: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Dealer has provided a list of references for me to check:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Dealer has provided me a firm price and detailed proposal:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Dealer is Trained and Certified in:			
➤ ACCA Manual J Heat loss/gain calculations:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ ACCA Manual D duct design and installation:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ International Ground Source Heat Pump Assn. (IGHSPA):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Loop design and installation including fusion welding:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Certified by the Manufacture of the heat pump being sold:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Dealer is a member of:			
➤ The Iowa Geothermal Association (you can find an IGAA member listing at www.iowageothermal.org)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ The Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ The Better Business Bureau, in good standing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Has a current Iowa mechanical license and is bonded/insured:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Dealer:			
➤ Performed a heat loss/gain calculation to size the equipment:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Explained to me the proper steps for sizing the heat pump & loop field to the heating and cooling demands of my home:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Explained to me how the design of the system is to maintain a minimum indoor temperature of 68 ⁰ F at the proper outdoor design temperature for Iowa:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Explained to me how the design of the system is to maintain a maximum indoor temperature of 78 ⁰ F at the proper outdoor design temperature for Iowa:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Given me an estimate of the annual operating costs of the system:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Asked me about future plans for additions or remodeling:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Explained to me that the loop design minimum entering water temperature will be no less than 25 ⁰ F during the coldest time of winter:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Provides emergency 24-hour service:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The Dealer Discussed the Following Topics:	Dealer		
	#1	#2	#2
➤ What will be the best options and sizing of any supplemental heat source for the geothermal system:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ The location of the systems entry into the home:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ The importance of adequate insulation and minimizing air infiltration:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ The importance of air quality, filtration and ventilation:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ The importance of proper duct design and sizing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ The importance of properly balancing the system:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ The operation and maintenance of the system:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ The manufacturer's warranty:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ The dealer's warranty:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Utility and government rebates and what they may or may not include:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Additional costs such as electrical/landscaping if not all included in firm offer:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ If considering an open loop system, the advantages and disadvantages of it versus a closed loop system:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total number of points per contractor:	_____	_____	_____