

## 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:**

|   | <b>DEALER</b>            |                          |                          |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|   | <b>1</b>                 | <b>2</b>                 | <b>3</b>                 |
| 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**

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|