

How to Choose a Quality Geothermal Contractor



Choosing a heating and cooling system for your home may be the most important “comfort” decision of your home-owning experience.

Geothermal heating and cooling systems are considered the most efficient, comfortable systems on the market.

However, if you choose the wrong contractor you may not reap all the benefits of a geothermal system.

The MNGHPA wants you to be completely satisfied with your decision. This comparison checklist will help you choose the best contractor for the job.

After all, it’s a decision you and your family will live with for a very long time!

Dealer name #1: _____

Dealer name #2: _____

Dealer name #3: _____

	Dealer		
	#1	#2	#3
Check all that apply:			
➤ Dealer has previously installed geothermal systems.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Dealer has been in business for more than three years.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Dealer provided a list of references (Make sure to check them).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Dealer provided you with a firm price.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
THE DEALER IS CERTIFIED AND TRAINED 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 Assoc (IGSHPA).	<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"/>
THE DEALER IS A MEMBER OF:			
➤ An industry group, such as the MNGHPA.	<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 International Ground Source Heat Pump Assoc.	<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 state HVAC license and is 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"/>
➤ Performed the proper steps to sizing the heat pump and loop field for the heating and cooling needs of the home.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Designed the system to maintain a minimum indoor temperature of 70°F at the proper outdoor design temperature	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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for Minnesota.

- Designed the system to maintain a maximum indoor temperature of 75°F at the proper outdoor design temperature for Minnesota.
- Provided you with an estimate of the annual operating costs.
- Asked you about your future plans for additions or remodeling.
- Provides 24-hour emergency service.

THE DEALER DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WITH YOU:

- Advantages and disadvantages of open and closed loop systems.
- The importance of sizing the well, pumps, and pressure tank of an open loop system.
- The location of the closed loop system and entry/exit of the home.
- The insulating factors of the home and minimizing air infiltration.
- Any current issues your home may have comfort, airflow, etc.
- The importance of air quality, filtration, and ventilation.
- The importance of proper duct design.
- The importance of properly balancing the system.
- The operation and maintenance of the system.
- The manufacturer's and dealer's warranties.
- Utility programs and energy rates.
- Additional costs if not all included (electrical, landscaping, etc.).

Total number of points per contractor =