



# MARION COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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MARION COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
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## **INSTALLATION OF PRIVATE SEPTIC SYSTEMS**

### **FOUR BASIC STEPS TO FOLLOW**

**STEP 1 – SITE EVALUATION.** Contact the Environmental Health office to set up a meeting at your site. It is recommended that you also select a contractor and have them out at the site as well. The area for the septic system can then be laid out and any setbacks will be marked. A basic survey of the soil will be done and options will be discussed on different types of septic systems. If it is determined that the soils are unacceptable for a soil absorption type system, a percolation waiver can be signed and then skip to step 3.

**STEP 2 – PERCOLATION/SOIL TEST.** Subsurface soil absorption septic systems are considered to be the best available treatment for private wastewater. However, the right type of soil must be present for effective treatment and for system longevity. State code requires that a percolation or soil test be conducted before any subsurface soil absorption system is installed. Marion County also requires that percolation and soil tests be done by a certified engineer. Special care should be taken to not dig, alter, or in any way compact the soil of the test area.

**STEP 3 – SEPTIC PERMIT.** You must have a septic permit before the installation of your system. Once we have received the engineer's report, or you have signed a percolation waiver, the permit can be obtained from our office. They are valid for one year and the cost is \$200 for a new system or \$100 for a repair.

**STEP 4 – INSPECTION AND APPROVAL.** The system is to be left exposed so that it can be fully inspected. The contractor should contact us 24 hours in advance so that we can schedule the appointment. Once the system is inspected and final approval is given, a copy of the permit, reports, and a map will be available upon request.

Private septic systems are an effective way to treat domestic wastewater, but care must be taken to keep them working properly. Examples include having good water conservation practices, limited use of garbage disposals, and avoid flushing harsh chemicals. We also recommend not using any septic additives. Instead, the best maintenance practice is to have the septic tank inspected every three to five years to see if it needs to be pumped out. The Marion County Environmental Health office is available to answer these and any other septic questions you might have.

Order of these names does not indicate preference. You may find other names in the phone directory.

### Professional Engineers for Percolation Test or Soil Analysis

Abaci Consulting, Inc., Mark McMurphy (Soil)	10540 Hickman Rd, Clive 50325	515-986-5048
Abie C. Davis, P.E. and L.S	1428 Oregon St, Knoxville 50138	641-842-5863 or 641-828-7946
Boeckman Services, Louis Boeckman (Soil)	1990 Clover Ave, Creston 50801	641-782-4595
Brown, Curtis	15631 Johnson, Indianola 50125	515-961-7379
Carroll, James (Soil)	1549 NW 92 <sup>nd</sup> St, Clive 50325	515-225-3846
Choquette, Ken PE	1410 Pennsylvania Ave, Des Moines 50316	515-306-0019
Claman, Dave	610 Meadow Pl, Ames 50010	515-292-9512
CMT, Doug Clement (Soil)	1717 NE 58 <sup>th</sup> Ave, Des Moines 50313	515-263-0794
Lee Engineers & Surveyors, Wally Greenlees (Soil)	3031 NW 86 <sup>th</sup> St, Urbandale 50322	515-252-7457
Jeff May, P.E.	310 S. 7 <sup>th</sup> St, Knoxville 50138	641-891-2308
Neilson/Garden & Associates	1907 17 <sup>th</sup> Ave. East, PO Box 451, Oskaloosa 52577	641-672-2526
Vance & Hochstetler	110 Green, Winterset 50273	515-462-3995

### Contractors for Sewage Disposal Systems

A-1 Complete Septic Service	5900 SE 6 <sup>th</sup> Ave, Des Moines 50317	515-265-3986
Becker, Chris	3312 68 <sup>th</sup> St, Urbandale 50322	515-278-6985
Bedwell Builders	2924 Quaker St, St. Charles 50240	641-396-2462
Beyer Backhoe, Vance Beyer	1774 Co. Line Rd, Otley 50214	515-627-5205 or 515-780-2525
Certified Septic, Ken Williams	1035 Story Dr. Knoxville 50138	641-891-0699
Davidson Trenching & Backhoe	5591 Pierce St, St. Charles 50240	641-297-2103
Davis Excavation, Keith Davis	1444 110 <sup>th</sup> Pl, Knoxville 50138	641-891-0413 or 641-828-7261
De Jong Digging	1996 220 <sup>th</sup> Ave, Bussey 50044	641-944-5577 or 641-891-6157
<b>*Dickerson Mechanical Inc.</b>	<b>P.O. Box 134, Colfax 50054</b>	<b>515-674-3636</b>
Dunkin Construction, Mark Dunkin	3107 Dean Ave, Bussey 50044	641-891-6865
Forest Septic Tank Service	P.O. Box 197, Ankeny 50021	515-964-1443
Harsin Construction, Eric Harsin	1171 108 <sup>th</sup> Pl, Knoxville 50138	641-842-5984 or 641-891-8900
Huff & Son Well Boring	1996 295 <sup>th</sup> Ln, Winterset 50273	515-462-3569
Glen Hunt	PO Box 444, Knoxville 50138	641-891-5750
Ervin Fopma , Earth Works Inc	Sully IA	641-594-3500
Jolly, Rod	529 Johnson St, Pleasantville 50225	515-238-8536 or 515-848-3508
Killen Construction/Mike	1679 140 <sup>th</sup> Ave, Carlisle 50047	515-480-6082 or 515-989-9013
L & D Trenching, Bob Lee	2932 SE 14 <sup>th</sup> St, Runnells 50237	515-966-2456
<b>*Leon's Complete Septic Service</b>	<b>1213 ½ E Robinson, Knoxville 50138</b>	<b>515-419-8310 or 641-842-7358</b>
Meese, Mark	3189 Truro Rd, Truro 50257	641-414-2700
Meland Co., Joe Meland	1311 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave. East, Oskaloosa 52577	641-660-3464
Moffitt, Damen	15569 Kennedy St, Indianola 50125	515-480-7139
<b>*Nash Well Company</b>	<b>19974 McKinley St, Milo 50166</b>	<b>515-480-4906 or 641-942-7748</b>
<b>*Onsite Wastewater Technologies</b>	<b>751 NE Broadway, STE. A, Des Moines 50313</b>	<b>515-244-4646</b>
Oxford Construction	10976 County Line Rd, Des Moines 50320	515-285-4780
<b>*Pella PreCast Products, Inc., Steve Harthoorn</b>	<b>902 West 8<sup>th</sup> St, Pella 50219</b>	<b>641-628-1357</b>
RD McKinney Plumbing and Excavation	P.O. Box 434, Waukee 50263	515-987-4715
Richards Plumbing, Jerry Richards	P.O. Box 315, Pleasantville 50225	515-848-3317 or 515-891-1887
<b>*River to River Septic</b>	<b>P.O. Box 460, Waukee 50263</b>	<b>515-987-3913</b>
Rose Const – Jeff Rose	50574 215 <sup>th</sup> Ave Chariton, IA 50049	641-203-2108 or 641-774-7449
Rozendaal Tiling, Norm Rozendaal	2064 Republic, Monroe 50170	641-259-2651 or 641-417-0152
<b>*Shilling Excavating Inc., Rick Shilling</b>	<b>1095 Story Dr, Knoxville 50138</b>	<b>641-891-1264 or 641-842-7191</b>
<b>*Steenhoek Septics</b>	<b>2340 Keokuk Dr, Pella 50219</b>	<b>641-628-9505</b>
Trunnel Digging & Plumbing, Aaron Trunnel	106 S. East St, Prairie City, 50228	515-202-9632
Vanderpool Construction	1100 N. 14 <sup>th</sup> St, Indianola 50125	515-961-4682

VanRyswyk Plumbing and Heating	P.O. Box 520, Monroe 50170	641-259-2054
Wadle, Adam	Melcher	515-250-4274
Wiedmann, Gary	2750 Hamilton St, Norwalk 50211	515-981-4744 or 360-3517

**\*Denotes mechanical system distributor & or Maintenance Contractor. Highlighted names indicate that they hold a CIOWTS credential from NEHA.**