



# MARION COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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MARION COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH  
2003 N Lincoln St  
KNOXVILLE, IA 50138

## 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 probing 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 Site Evaluation form 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 Site Evaluation form, the permit can be obtained from our office. This permit is valid for one year and costs \$200 for a new system or \$100 for a repair.

**STEP 4 – INSPECTION AND APPROVAL.** The Marion County Board of Health requires that all private contractors installing or repairing private septic systems in Marion County hold the CLOWTS (Certified Installer of Wastewater Treatment Systems) credential from NEHA (National Environmental Health Association). After installation, 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 inspection 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.*

**CERTIFIED INSTALLERS OF ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS (CIOWTS)**

A-1 Complete Septic Service-Russ & Justin Thomas	Runnells IA	515-265-3986
Aaron Trunnel	Altoona IA	515-202-9632
AW Contracting-Adam Wadle	Melcher IA	515-250-4274
Bassett Excavating Inc.-Ryan Bassett	Knoxville IA	641-943-3049 (office)
		641-891-4050 (cell)
Beyer Backhoe-Vance Beyer	Otley IA	641-627-5205
Davidson Trenching & Backhoe-Chad Davidson	St. Charles IA	515-480-2377
Dickerson Mechanical Inc.-George Dickerson	Colfax IA	515-674-3636
Forest Septic Environmental Services LLC	Indianola IA	515-961-2113
Jason Dop	Reasnor IA	641-891-6064
Killen Construction-Mike Killen	Carlisle IA	515-480-6082
Meland Co. Septic Service & Excavating-Joe Meland	Oskaloosa IA	641-673-1422 (office)
		641-660-3464 (cell)
Moffitt Trenching LLC-Damen Moffitt	Indianola IA	515-480-7139
Norm Rozendaal Tiling Inc.-Norm & Tim Rozendaal	Monroe IA	641-780-6109 (cell)
		641-259-2651 (office)
Pella Precast Products Inc.-Steve & Jason Harthoorn	Pella IA	641-628-1357
Peterson Tiling & Excavation-Jesse Peterson	Pella IA	641-780-6800
River to River Onsite Septic Solutions	Waukee IA	515-987-3913
Roger's Septic Maintenance & Repair-Rick Rogers	Des Moines IA	515-745-8352
Rose Construction-Jephrey Rose	Chariton IA	641-203-2108
Shilling Excavating Inc-Rick Shilling	Knoxville IA	641-891-1264
Shilling Septic Service-Tony Shilling	Knoxville IA	641-891-6995
Steenhoek Septic & Excavating-Danny Steenhoek	Pella IA	641-780-1617
Van Ryswyk Plumbing & Heating-Dean Van Ryswyk	Monroe IA	641-259-2054
Vanderpool Construction	Indianola IA	515-961-4682

*\*\*for other certified installers, please visit: <http://www.iowwa.com/pages/installersearch>*

**SEPTIC TANK PUMPERS**

Certified Septic-Ken Williams	Knoxville IA	641-891-0699
Forest Septic Environmental Services LLC	Indianola IA	515-961-2113
Killen Construction-Mike Killen	Carlisle IA	515-480-6082
Meland Co. Septic Service & Excavating-Joe Meland	Oskaloosa IA	641-673-1422 (office)
		641-660-3464 (cell)
Pella Precast Products Inc.-Steve & Jason Harthoorn	Pella IA	641-628-1357
River to River Onsite Septic Solutions	Waukee IA	515-987-3913
Shilling Septic Service-Tony Shilling	Knoxville IA	641-891-6995

*\*\*for other certified pumpers, please visit:*

*<http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water-Quality/Private-Septic-Systems/Septic-Tank-Pumping>*

## MAINTENANCE PROVIDERS

AW Contracting-Adam Wadle	Melcher IA	515-250-4274
Aaron Trunnel	Altoona IA	515-202-9632
Certified Septic-Ken Williams	Knoxville IA	641-891-0699
Dickerson Mechanical Inc.-George Dickerson	Colfax IA	515-674-3636
Lanette Simmons	Pleasantville IA	641-891-0213
Meland Co. Septic Service & Excavating-Joe Meland	Oskaloosa IA	641-673-1422 (office)
		641-660-3464 (cell)
Norm Rozendaal Tiling Inc.	Monroe IA	641-259-2651 (office)
Onsite Waste Water Technologies (OWWT LLC)	Des Moines IA	515-244-4646
Pella Precast Products Inc.-Steve & Jason Harthoorn	Pella IA	641-628-1357
River to River Onsite Septic Solutions	Waukee IA	515-987-3913
Roger's Septic Maintenance & Repair-Rick Rogers	Des Moines IA	515-745-8352
Shilling Excavating Inc-Rick Shilling	Knoxville IA	641-891-1264
Shilling Septic Service-Tony Shilling	Knoxville IA	641-891-6995

## TIME OF TRANSFER INSPECTORS

Certified Septic-Ken Williams	Knoxville IA	641-891-0699
Forest Septic Environmental Services LLC	Indianola IA	515-961-2113
Lanette Simmons	Pleasantville IA	641-891-0213
Meland Co. Septic Service & Excavating-Joe Meland	Oskaloosa IA	641-673-1422 (office)
		641-660-3464 (cell)
Norm Rozendaal Tiling Inc.-Norm Rozendaal	Monroe IA	641-259-2651 (office)
Norm Rozendaal Tiling Inc.-Tim Rozendaal	Monroe IA	641-780-6109 (cell)
		641-259-2651 (office)
Pella Precast Products Inc.-Jason Harthoorn	Pella IA	641-628-1357
River to River Onsite Septic Solutions	Waukee IA	515-987-3913
Roger's Septic Maintenance & Repair-Rick Rogers	Des Moines IA	515-745-8352
Shilling Septic Service-Tony Shilling	Knoxville IA	641-891-6995

*\*\*for other certified inspectors, please visit:*

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water-Quality/Certification/Time-of-Transfer-Inspectors>

## PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS FOR PERCOLATION TEST OR SOIL ANALYSIS

Abaci Consulting, Inc.-Mark Mc Murphy	Grimes IA	515-986-5048
James Carroll	Clive IA	515-250-2103
Jeff May	Knoxville IA	641-891-2308

**NOTE:** The foregoing names have been provided to you at your request. They are listed in alphabetical order and not in any order of preference. The fact their name appears on this list, means only that said contractor is currently licensed to do business in this field of sewage disposal in this county. The names are provided only as a guide, and Marion County and/or any of its individual employees or departments is not endorsing any one contractor. Each citizen is expected to conduct their own due diligence in retaining any of these contractors. Marion County shall be held harmless pursuant to Iowa Law, for any damage caused by any contractor retained by the property owner.