

Residents of Perry County should be aware that there have been people going door-to-door, telling homeowners that they need to have their septic tanks pumped. A variety of techniques, many fraudulent, are being used to convince the homeowner that their tank needs pumping. When confused homeowners agree, they are often charged well above the “going rate” for sludge removal.

Here are some things to keep in mind when dealing with door to door contractors:

- Do not pay in cash.
- Do not pay in advance.
- Do insist on a written contract.
- Do review the written contract before signing it to be sure it specifies the price and other details you have discussed with the contractor about the job.
- Do keep a copy of the contract.
- Do contact other reputable area contractors so you have a good comparison to the deal you are being offered.
- Do ask to see a state contractor’s license.
- Do ask for references from former customers. Call them to discuss the worker and the work performed.
- Do note the license number of the contractor’s vehicle, in case of later problems.

If you find yourself in this situation and feel pressured or threatened, close the door and contact local law enforcement if necessary. Please remember to immediately report any incident to the Perry County Health Department at 357-5371 ext 114.