

Tips When Picking a Contractor

It's OK to contact contractors. Ask questions. Mention you are working with the Oneida County Cost Share program.

Expect a contractor to be busy. The best contractors are the busy ones.

Choose the right contractor for the right project. Someone who did a good job tiling your neighbor's bathroom may not be the right person to build a bag wall near your shoreline. Choose a contractor that routinely does the kind of project you want done. You don't want to be a guinea pig.

Ask for references and talk to previous clients. Previous clients can tell you if the contractor communicates well and if they have done the job correctly according to a pre-approved plan. They have the most recent experience working with that contractor.

Check out our Contractor List. Each year we ask contractors on our current list if they want to remain on our list and continue to work on Cost Share projects. Our list can tell you what services the contractor provides and if they have been involved in any training to keep their skills/procedures updated. Check out the following link to see the 2019 Contractors List/Services. <https://www.oclw.org/cost-share-program.html>

Have frequent conversations with your contractor. Make sure your contractor knows what you want and that you are on the same page when it comes to the work being done.

Verify insurance coverage. Know what is covered by your homeowner's insurance and what is covered by your contractor's business insurance. Get a copy of the company's insurance policy.

Don't make the final payment until the job is 100 percent complete. Don't make the final payment until you are completely satisfied with the work.

Get ALL final PAID Receipts for the job. Oneida County requires that the contractor be paid in full and all receipts submitted to the Land and Water Conservation Department before releasing any Cost Share funding.