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Do I Need a Permit to Install a New HVAC System?

Yes, and there seems to be confusion on the part of some licensed HVAC contractors in this matter. The City of Peachtree Corners, and the vast majority of other jurisdictions in the State of Georgia, require a permit for the installation of any HVAC equipment.

The logic behind the permit:

1. It is the law. You are required by law to have a permit for the HVAC work done in your home. The HVAC contractor is required to be licensed by the state of Georgia.
2. It ensures that you get a code compliant installation, that it was installed properly and that it meets all current legislation, including the State Energy Conservation Code and the Home Energy Rating System (HERS) requirements.
3. If a permit is not obtained it could be an issue with your homeowner's insurance policy. If a situation occurs such as fire or carbon monoxide poisoning from an unpermitted HVAC installation, a homeowner's insurance policy could be cancelled or a claim go unpaid, if the insurance company finds that work was done on the property without a permit.
4. The city's building department requires and verifies that the person applying for the permit is a State Licensed HVAC contractor. You should never deal with an unlicensed contractor for any type installation. It will bring you nothing but trouble and possible lawsuits.

Here are some tips to follow before hiring anyone to do HVAC work on your home or property:

- Hire only licensed contractors and ask to see their license and a photo ID to verify their identity.
- Get at least three (3) bids.
- Get three (3) references.
- Get it in writing, but before you sign the contract, make sure you understand it completely.

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