

# Drainage

## Did you know?

The Dublin City Council Drainage Division manage:

- 50,000 road drainage gullies
- 2,500 metres of pipework
- 160 direct labour staff employed
- 6,000 Planning applications per year
- 110,000 manholes
- 40 Pumping stations
- Replace 2km of pipework each year
- Our largest pumping station, the Main Lift Pumping station off Pigeon House Road in Ringsend, has the capacity to pump 18.8 metres cubed of drainage (the volume of an average bathroom) per second.

## Road Gully Cleaning



The City Council Drainage Division introduced a revised Gully cleaning programme in 1999. A new supervisory Inspector position was created in 2004 to oversee the cleaning of the city's gullies. Depending on the location, all gullies are cleaned at least once per annum and up to 8 times per annum in flood sensitive areas.

A web based computer application was created by Drainage Division staff which records the date and location of every single gully cleaning operation. The application also records whether any repairs are required and is then updated when the necessary repairs have been carried out.

The gully cleaning unit numbers twelve staff who work either individually or in pairs. They operate a shift system, commencing work at either 4 AM or 6 AM which facilitates cleaning work on the heavily trafficked carriageways within the City Centre. Various plant items are utilised including purpose built Gully cleaning machines, CCTV cameras, flat bedded trucks and high powered jetting machines which can operate up to 4,000 PSI.



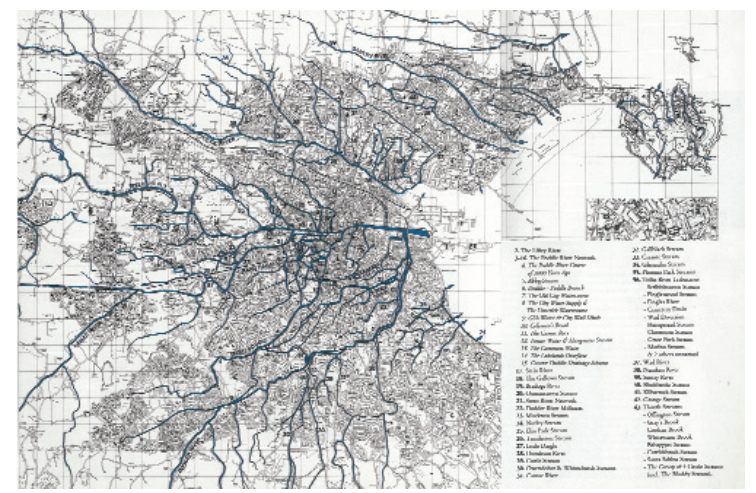
Gerry Fitzpatrick and Paul Dunne Gully Cleaning



Trevor O'Neill, Joseph McGill and Dave Green Investigating drainage issues



Dublin City Council's Treatment Plant serving 7 counties



Dublin Watercourses

## Fats, Oils and Grease Programme

Dublin City Council is the first local authority in Ireland to implement a Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) programme. The aim is to prevent the discharge of waste FOG into the drainage network from commercial kitchens. This material congeals on cooling and causes blockages in pipes. These blockages cause flooding of premises, overloading of wastewater treatment plants and pollution of rivers and streams.

The objective of the programme is to issue a trade effluent discharge licence, under the Water Pollution Act, to each premises discharging FOG. Compliance with the licence is then monitored via regular inspections. Nearly 2000 premises are now licensed. FOG programmes are now being promoted by the Environmental Protection Agency as part of national strategy to achieve good status in waters, under the Water Framework Directive.



Blockage due to Fats, Oils and Greases - Georges Street



Rathmines & Pembroke Trunk Sewer being diverted along Dodder river (as part of Aviva Stadium Works)



Cleaning syphon in times past



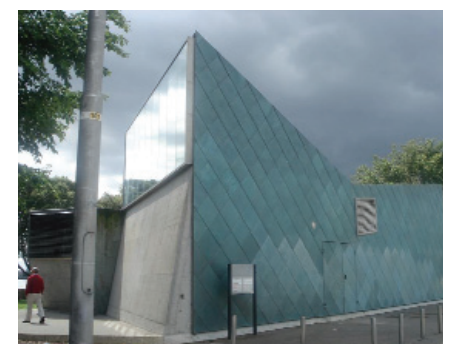
CCTV Van and High Pressure Jet Vector



CCTV Camera with elevator



One of DCC's high pressure jetting and vacuuming machines



Vernon Avenue Pumping Station



Installing Pipework



Services in a road

## Ringsend Extension

The Ringsend Wastewater Treatment plant is being extended to remove treated water discharge from the environmentally sensitive Liffey estuary to a point further offshore. The new discharge location will take advantage of improved dilution and dispersion to greater water depths and stronger tidal currents. This will further improve the value of bay and estuary as cherished public amenities.

