

How can you help?

Firstly, please co-operate with the survey team. The job has to be done, and it will be done far more efficiently and economically with your co-operation.

Secondly, with a new development, it is important that existing older drainage should be disconnected correctly whereby any drain that is not intended to be re-used and has no other drain discharging into it is properly sealed / capped off as close to the sewer connection as possible with a substantial concrete plug of at least 8". This will prevent the spread of rats and disease.

Finally, all persons who may carry waste on behalf of another party in the course of their business must be Registered Carriers. The Environment Agency issues the Registration Certificate which can be obtained on the completion of an application and submission of a registration fee. Generally builders, plumbers, central heating installers, electricians, carpenters, window fitters and landscape gardeners will need to become Registered Carriers. You can help to prevent flytipping and illegal waste disposal by asking to see the carriers certificate of any person who may carry waste on your behalf.

It is an offence to carry waste without being a Registered Carrier and may result in a fine up to £5000.

For more information, advice or help, please get in touch by calling us on

0117 922 4452

and ask for Operation Streamclean

By working together we can make our environment better



Environmental Quality
The CREATE Centre
Smeaton Road
Bristol BS1 6XN

Pest Control Services
7 - 8 Feeder Road
St Philips Marsh
Bristol BS2 0SB



Wessex Water
Headquarters
Claverton Down
Bath
BA2 7WW



Environment Agency
Rivers House
East Quay
Bridgwater
Somerset
TA6 4YS

With the support & co-operation of Bristol City Council Building Control Department, Brunel House, St George's Road, Bristol, BS1 5UY.



Streamclean Information Advice Leaflet

Works involving drainage
connections
for new builds and extensions



River Trym at Sea Mills

This information advice leaflet provides advice and guidance to those developing new builds and extensions to existing properties within the Bristol area.

Get it right the first time ... Save yourself time, money and effort.

Two Different Drains ... Two Different Destinations

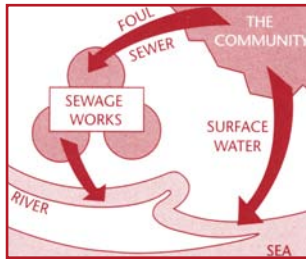
Many urban areas, particularly those

constructed since the 1960's, have two completely separate drainage systems. One is the surface water drainage system. This collects the rainwater from our roofs, drives and roads and drains into the local streams and rivers.

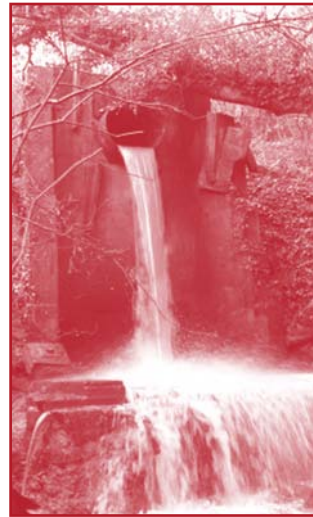
The other drainage system is called the foul sewer. This collects waste water from our homes via toilets, baths, showers, washing machines, dishwashers and sink units and routes it to the local sewage works. Here it is treated and cleaned before being returned to the environment. This works well – until a home is connected to the wrong drainage system. And, unfortunately, the appliances in some homes are wrongly connected.

The biggest problem with pipes, of course, is that they aren't easy to follow. We only know that homes are wrongly connected when streams become polluted with household waste water. How does this happen? It's all too easy – and with disastrous results.

Often when an extension is built, a kitchen re-plumbed or a new washing machine or dishwasher installed, the householder, plumber or builder connects the outlet pipe to the surface water drain, not the foul sewer. This waste water not only pollutes local streams, endangering or even killing wildlife, it also poses a potential public health risk.



What is Operation Streamclean?



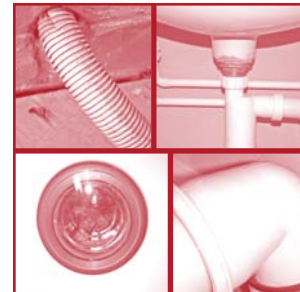
Operation Streamclean is a partnership between Bristol City Council, The Environment Agency & Wessex Water. The partnership was set up in 1992 to specifically identify wrong drainage connections at properties.

The Operation streamclean inspectors undertake surveys throughout Bristol. They examine connections to the foul and surface water drainage systems, finding out where the wrong connections are. They then advise householders on making the 'right connections' to make an improvement to the local environment.

Although the survey work is carried out by three organisations, there is just one office to deal with and just one phone number to use:

0117 922 4452

*and ask for
Operation Streamclean*



Building Control Supporting Operation Streamclean

Bristol City Council's Building Regulations and Standards Team are facilitating Operation Streamclean by publicising the initiative and carrying out some joint site inspections.

This means that Operation Streamclean is potentially involved in the assessment of drainage information regarding new builds and extensions to existing properties within Bristol.

If you are developing a new property or extending your own, Operation Streamclean are happy to provide supplementary guidance and advice about the suitability of drainage connections.

Streamclean may also conduct inspections on your development to check the drainage is not polluting your nearest watercourse.

If Operation Streamclean find that you have installed an illegal drainage connection you will be required to correct the connection at your own expense, so it is advisable to take advantage of the advice on offer at the start of your project.

The Buildings Act

In exceptional circumstances where a property owner does not rectify illegal drainage installations, the Building Regulations Team will have no choice but to take enforcement action under Section 36 of the Building Act or alternatively your Local Environmental Health Officer may take action under Section 59 of the Building Act.