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Thanks to the developed technology of 'Directional Drilling' the days are gone when the only way to install new underground water, cable and an electric line in urban areas is dig up the asphalt. Directional Drilling now better known as horizontal directional drilling is a trench-less technology that enables pipe installation under roads, waterways, wetlands, driveways and other man made and natural structures. Directional Drilling can be performed without traffic disruption and excavation and follows a pre determined pathway at shallow depths. This pipe laying process does not require long planning application permits “ which are subject normally to lengthy scrutiny and severe restrictions to protect land and resources.

Since Directional Drilling means working with environmentally friendly techniques and modern machinery, it drills a path for the utilities that is completely unobtrusive and does not interfere with either life on the surface. Its environmental friendly impact makes it an increasingly popular method of pipe laying in difficult locations such as cities where infrastructure is a constant barrier to traditional trench digging, pipe laying techniques. There are a number of experienced contractors globally who have completed many successful Directional Drilling projects. Thanks to their expertise and equipment they can tunnel beneath flowing rivers and active runways. They can accurately lay pipes under a street to the exact target area the size of a dinner plate. Indeed on many occasions Directional Drilling operatives have been called in to redeem other drilling method projects. These interventions have highlighted the technical and cost efficiency of choosing the Directional Drilling method in the first place. It is also a useful technology for residential projects, where it is an affordable and practical option for home-owners who need to connect to utilities without the costs and annoyance that traditional excavation can cause. There are specialized machines for accessing and working on small sites. This avoids damaging your property or tearing up roads which can be expensive to reinstate. It also means your driveway remains intact and the work can be carried out in a fraction of the time taken by more traditional open trench methodology.

Commercial boring as we have already seen is becoming increasingly popular where it is deemed most appropriate as the best pipe installation method. Remember that with horizontal Directional Drilling hard rock is not a problem. There is a custom machine to overcome all cutting problems so pipe laying projects can progress relatively problem free and on schedule. Another feature which is environmentally friendly and dirt free is the method of Directional Drilling which minimises the need for earth removal and the long-term costs of trench settlement. This drilling method can be used in practically all weather conditions including snow. The only thing that might stop drilling is freezing temperatures.

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Terra Solutions is a leading trenchless civil engineering contractor specialising in a [Directional Drilling](#) and a [Auger Boring](#)

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