

Recurring Themes in Historic Droughts

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Where's the Social Science in a Drought?

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40,000 hit by Northern Ireland water crisis

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Belfast resident Sharon Hunter: "It's ridiculous NI Water didr

About 40,000 people across Northern Ireland are without water supplies.



Families forced to use lemonade to flush toilets as fury mounts over workers who refuse to cancel New Year holidays to repair the crumbling pipes

By DAILY MAIL REPORTER
UPDATED: 15:36, 31 December 2010



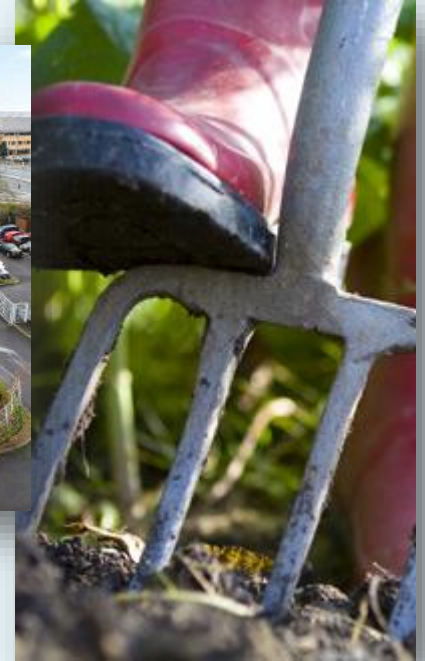
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- Water firm bosses face the sack as crisis deepens in Northern Ireland
- Homes flooded with raw sewage after pipes burst during cold snap
- Swine flu cases double as people warned to try and wash hands
- Pipes crumbling due to a huge lack of investment over decades
- NI Water's handling of the crisis branded 'shambolic' by First Minister

What a drought can tell us; for example:

- What drought 'is' for people;
- Historically and socially learned practices of coping before and during;
- Individualistic behaviours;
- Citizen-state relationships.

Recurring Themes and Three Possible Responses



Governing for drought: leadership and regulation

Re-casting our relationship with the environment



Social practices: "making water conservation a way of life"

Can we change the course of history
now?