

Retro-fit a green house

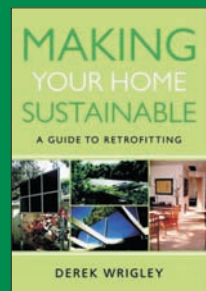
Convinced that architecture must try harder to utilise natural rather than imported energies, architect Derek Wrigley has learned from painful experience what works and what doesn't. Although an author of many written and spoken papers on design, education and the environment, this is the first book he has had time to write, having designed and built five solar houses for his family since arriving in Australia in 1947 from the UK.

A health move to a townhouse in Mawson, Canberra, in 1991 provided the latest challenge – retrofitting an existing house for sustainable operation. Since completing the project, close to 2000 people have been through the Mawson house on Solar House Days. Their comments and questions led to *Making Your Home Sustainable*.

How do significantly reduced electricity and water bills; cooler rooms in summer and warmer rooms in winter; more internal light; sunshine in all rooms; increased property value; and a healthier planet sound? Well this title is a practical, easy-to-follow guide on how to modify your home to use much less energy and reduce the daily impact on the environment, while improving both your household budget and comfort.

Using his own home as an example, Wrigley's book includes detailed descriptions, 46 photographs and 102 diagrams to show how his design ideas are implemented and detail their result will be from environmental, financial and aesthetic viewpoints.

Most of the examples are simple and economical and use reused or recycled materials



wherever practicable. They encompass rationalising water and electricity consumption; harnessing solar energy; improving windows, insulation and ventilation; redirecting 'wasted' sunshine using reflectors and adjustable sunshades; and seasonal landscaping.

***Making Your Home Sustainable*
A Guide to Retrofitting**
Derek Wrigley

Scribe Publications, 2005,
Paperback
ISBN:1920769498 RRP: \$42.95

Available from: CSIRO Publishing
www.publish.csiro.au/pid/3990.htm

A practical guide to better policy

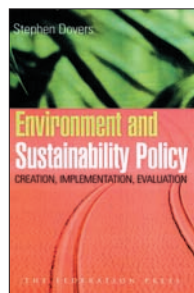
Arguing that better public policy is needed to create more sustainable outcomes, Stephen Dovers articulates in *Environment and Sustainability Policy: Creation, Implementation and Evaluation*, what this policy might involve, and gives a basis for analysing and prescribing policy and institutional responses.

Dovers is a Senior Fellow at the Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies, at the Australian National University and is widely acknowledged as a leading scholar of environmental policy. He is active in research and education in policy and institutional analysis, decision making in the face of uncertainty, science-policy linkages, natural resource management and environmental history.

In this rigorous, but accessibly written guide, he brings a deep knowledge of traditional

public policy, and the complex institutional systems around it, together with a close understanding of current sustainability issues. The book gives an operational framework for policy analysis and prescription, and provides ways of fulfilling key elements of an effective policy process.

According to Paul Perkins, Chair of the National Environmental and Education Council, Dovers' perspective is 'a seminal contribution to the literature on learning for sustainability, a truly comprehensive analysis of the issues and policy implications. It is not a toolkit but discusses all major challenges of the integration of social, economic and ecological issues under various perspectives. Dovers' insights on participation, integration and institutional change in particu-



lar will be welcomed by educators and policy professionals, students, change managers and administrators at the cutting edge of sustainability.'

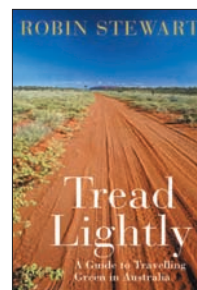
Environment and Sustainability Policy

Creation, Implementation and Evaluation
Stephen Dovers

The Federation Press
2005, Paperback
ISBN: 1862875405 RRP: \$49.95

Available from:
www.federationpress.com.au

Low impact travel



Already the recognised author of *Chemical Free Home*, *The Clean House Effect*, *Australian Green Home & Garden*, and *Chemical Free Pest-Control*, Robin Stewart knows a thing or two about chemical- and impact-free living, having tested the best approaches through life and adventures across Australia. *Tread Lightly* applies her knowledge and practical experience to the art of sensitive travel.

Aimed at the recent surge in 'around Australia' thrill seekers, Stewart's book combines a philosophical approach to respecting the environment's balance, with a simple, common-sense guide to travelling economically and comfortably, but with minimal impact. In this mode, she notices, the feeling you have from the journey is greatly enhanced.

Stewart helps you decide what to take, where to stay and how best to dispose of waste. She discusses eco-resorts, energy use, water purification and travelling with pets, as well as how to stay safe and healthy while you travel. *Tread Lightly* would be a great primer for those setting out and wanting to cover their tracks.

Tread Lightly
A Guide to Travelling Green in Australia
Robyn Stewart

Black Inc, 2005, Paperback
ISBN:1863953493 RRP: \$22.95

Available from:
www.blackincbooks.com