

Environmentally Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency Information Sheets

Information Sheet - Environmentally Sustainable Design, Energy Efficiency and Subdivision

This information sheet outlines the environmental sustainability and energy efficiency of subdivisions, rather than the actual dwellings/buildings which will be constructed within the subdivision. Incorporating environmentally sustainable design and energy efficiency measures in subdivisions can be undertaken at a range of different subdivision scales. Often such measures can be selling points for potential home owners.



Good Environmentally Sustainable and Energy Efficiency design elements for subdivisions include:

- Pedestrian and cycling friendly neighbourhoods that allow easy access
- A well integrated network of open space
- The use of recycled water and Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) measures
- Higher density housing located around activity centres, and the incorporation of shops and mini retail centres, playground equipment and parks, and schools
- Lot layout which allows for optimum solar orientation, including orientation of public open space
- A diversity of lot sizes to accommodate a range of dwellings
- The use of drought tolerant plants and indigenous species
- The use of low energy street lighting
- Footpaths on both sides of the street to enable active travel
- Good access to community facilities and public transport options
- Case Studies:
 - The Cape, Cape Paterson, Victoria
 - Mullum Creek, Donvale, Victoria
 - YarraBend, Alphington, Victoria
 - Witchcliffe Ecovillage, Margaret River, Western Australia
 - Lochiel Park, Campbelltown, South Australia

Source: Environmentally Sustainable Design for Subdivisions in Regional Victoria (AECOM)