ECONOMICS PROVIDES TOOLS TO VALUE THE ENVIRONMENT AND IMPACTS TO IT. THE ENVIRONMENT PRODUCES GOODS AND SERVICES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE WELLBEING AND UTILITY OF HUMANS. HUMAN ACTIONS THAT ADVERSELY IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT CHANGE THE FLOW OF GOODS AND SERVICES AND UTILITY OF HUMANS. ECONOMIC VALUATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT IS CONCERNED TO IDENTIFY, QUANTIFY AND MONETIZE THESE CHANGES. THIS ARTICLE WILL INTRODUCE THE CONCEPTS OF ECONOMIC VALUATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THEIR APPLICATION TO THE LAW.
The pernicious problem of "pointy" pollution: An assessment of the international and Australian legal regimes for controlling point-source, land-based marine pollution – Tristan Orgill

The international legal regime regulating vessel-source marine pollution has been “widely judged to be successful”. Conversely, despite the fact that 80% of marine pollutants are discharged from land-based sources, the non-binding international regime for controlling land-based marine pollution remains an ineffectual, toothless tiger. This article assesses the latter international regime to show both how and why it has failed to address the global scourge of point-source, land-based marine pollution (PSLBMP). The article examines why, conversely, and despite some significant flaws, the New South Wales PSLBMP regime has been effective at managing PSLBMP. It is argued that reform of the international PSLBMP regime should be predicated upon the careful evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of successful domestic legal responses to PSLBMP, such as the New South Wales regime.

Opportunities and obligations for residential developers to undertake wastewater recycling and stormwater capture: A Western Australian perspective – Meluka Bancroft and Alex Gardner

This article explores the potential for legal measures in Western Australia to facilitate opportunities and impose obligations on land developers to design and construct large-scale residential developments with a capacity for wastewater recycling and stormwater capture. The development of these alternatives sources of water presents one sustainable long-term option for significantly reducing potable water use in residential communities where potable water has, historically, been used for all water consumption purposes, including irrigation of private gardens and public open space. The reduction in expensive potable water use could be achieved by ensuring that all residential effluent (used potable water) is recycled for non-potable use within the development areas, and that stormwater run-off is captured for irrigation of parks and open space and natural recharge of the underlying superficial aquifer. This article reviews three current developments that utilise wastewater recycling and stormwater capture principles to examine the extent to which Western Australia’s existing legal framework achieves these outcomes. In particular, it analyses the provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2005 (WA), and the rights to access alternative water sources and to distribute them for consumptive uses. Finally, the article suggests reforms to mandate and facilitate the inclusion of wastewater recycling and stormwater capture systems in all new residential developments.