

Hair

- Products
- Articles
- Collections
- Step-By-Steps

- Classes / Shows
- Go Shopping
- Job Postings

Hair > Articles > Go Green without Going Broke: 10 Budget-Friendly Ideas

Go Green without Going Broke: 10 Budget-Friendly Ideas

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Going green isn't just for granola munchers anymore. It's also a smart business decision. In light of today's escalating energy costs, "greening" your salon by reducing energy will translate into instant savings. You'll love your svelte, new budget and you'll also do your part to prolong the health of Mother Earth. Here are 10 easy and cost-effective ideas to help get you started.

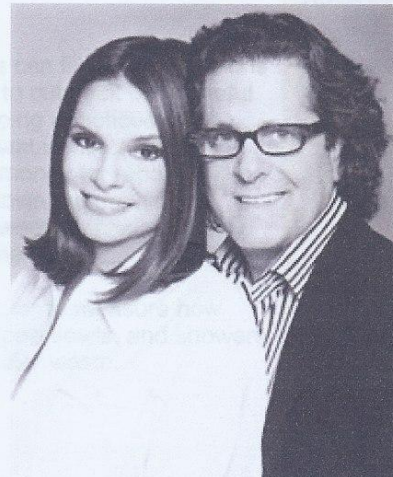
1. Waste Not, Want Not

All waste that your business generates might be costing you unnecessarily. So take a hard look at where and how your salon creates waste and come up with ways to reduce, reuse

or eliminate it completely. One area that generates lots of waste is the color department. Encourage colorists to be more precise when mixing formulas. Recycle your foils and color tubes and send them to a local recycling plant. Let clients process naturally instead of under the dryer. Leave waste where it belongs – the bathroom.

4. Bright Idea

Keeping a salon light and bright is like gassing up a Hummer, especially if your salon has tanning beds. In a tanning salon, lighting can account for as much as 40 percent of your business costs, so one way to keep this costly energy-guzzler at a more manageable level is to replace incandescent lights with fluorescent bulbs. **Beth and Carmine Minardi** partnered with Eco-lite to develop new lights for their salon. The lights not only give off the perfect tone to assess color, they also use 40-60 percent less power, reduce heat values and last ten times longer than the average bulb. Carmine credits these new lights for substantially reducing their electric bill.



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