

FRINGE: A SUSTAINABLE BOUTIQUE SALON

ON A SUSTAINABILITY MISSION

Fringe of Lombard is a boutique salon offering a unique sustainability experience for their customers. As a green salon, they align with brands and products that share their values, while meeting the highest beauty standards. Through all services the salon offers, they promote social and environmental responsibility.

From color bottles to foil, the salon industry generates a significant amount of waste. To reduce their impact on the environment, Fringe turned to Green Circle Salons for solutions. Green Circle Salons, a certified B Corporation, is a company that helps salons divert common salon products away from the landfill and empowers them to cut up to 95% of their beauty waste. Helping salons think sustainably, they also encourage other opportunities for salons to reduce their impact through energy and water.

TAKING ACTION

After finding Green Circle Salons' solution for reducing waste, Fringe began collecting their beauty waste, which includes used foils, color tubes, excess hair color, single use plastics, plastic wrap, and used gloves (PPE). They also collect cut hair through the program. They purchased waste bins from Green Circle that can be shipped back with beauty waste for recycling. For staff, they have recycling bins next to each trash bin to ensure proper sorting of all materials.

Staff are regularly trained and reminded of what can go into bins, and bins are set up to collect materials near stations. Once a recycling box is full, it is packaged and sent back to Green Circle Salons for recycling. Green Circle Salons sorts the waste material and sends it to recycling facilities, chemical waste facilities, clean energy companies, and others. This procedure ensures that sorting efforts are reducing rather than increasing climate impacts.



AT A GLANCE

- **3,500 lbs of beauty waste diverted from the landfill**
- **Awarded 2023 KAO Sustainability Award for North America**
- **Engaging customers in sustainability values**



MAKING AN IMPACT

Since Fringe of Lombard started their waste diversion program in 2017, they have diverted 3,500 lbs. of beauty waste, reducing the amount of chemicals and hard-to-decompose materials that go into the landfill.

On average, they send about 675 lbs. or more of waste annually to be sorted and recycled. To maintain their recycling efforts, customers are charged a small fee to support waste diversion. Their customers support Fringe's efforts and come to the salon with the knowledge that their experience is also a sustainable one.

Outside of waste diversion, Fringe of Lombard reduces waste by offering reusable dishware to customers and uses cloth towels instead of paper towels. Some staff even use reusable, washable gloves! They also recycle as much material as possible, keeping their actual landfill waste to the very minimum. Energy reduction is also a cornerstone of their work, monitoring their programmable thermostats for all seasons and closed hours, as well as ensuring that all lighting in the salon is LED.



BECOME AN ILLINOIS GREEN BUSINESS



Businesses can achieve greater profitability, lower utility bills, and greater customer awareness by taking on sustainability in their operations and facilities. Understand your business' baseline and sustainability opportunities.

Learn more about how your business can go green with the Illinois Green Business Program.

smartenergy.illinois.edu/green-business

A SUSTAINABLE SALON LEADER

Fringe of Lombard is a leading salon in Illinois, diverting thousands of pounds of materials and chemicals away from our landfills, but also helping to create cleaner, healthier communities.

In September 2023, they were awarded a KAO 2023 Sustainability Award for North America for their sustainability efforts. They are also working to become an Illinois Certified Green Business in partnership with Sustainable DuPage and the Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC) at the University of Illinois.

Fringe looks forward to continuing their sustainability efforts and finding new ways to reduce their impact for their customers and their community.

Learn more about Fringe and their sustainability efforts here:
<https://www.fringeoflombard.com/>



www.choosedupage.com/sustainable-dupage