

Safe Workplace Practices for Salons

As a salon professional, during your workday you could use a number of products – from shampoo and hair dye to nail polish and makeup – which may contain toxic chemicals. These chemicals can end up in the air or be absorbed by your skin, affecting both your health and the environment.

The good news is that there are practical and easy steps you can take to help create a toxic-free workplace at your salon. Here are some tips to get you started.

HAIR



- * Use phthalate-free and paraben-free products whenever possible
- * Mix chemicals in a separately vented room if possible
- * Clean up all spills immediately
- * Use pump dispensers for hair sprays or other pressurized aerosol products
- * Perform heat straightening instead of chemical straightening

NAILS



- * Use ventilated table if possible
- * Use dispenser bottles with small openings (big enough for application brush)
- * Use pressure sensitive stoppers to decrease amount of evaporation of nail liquid
- * Close product containers immediately after use
- * Clean dirty brushes on paper towel/gauze pad and dispose immediately in a sealed waste bin
- * Use dust or vapour masks when filing

GENERAL



- * Open salon windows when possible and place fans near open doors and windows
- * Use metal trash cans with tight, self-closing lids
- * Use gloves when working with any products that might contain toxic chemicals
- * Use only the amount of product you need to perform services. When possible, do not keep extra product at workstations
- * Purchase salon products in ready to use packaging rather than transferring from large containers
- * Don't drink or eat in your work area



Want to know more?

www.environmentaldefence.ca/salon

