

SKIN & LASER SURGERY CENTER, PC

Diplomates, American Board of Dermatology

*Adult & Pediatric Dermatology • Laser Cutaneous Surgery • Dermatologic Surgery
MOHS Micrographic Surgery*

Laser Hair Removal

Be Hair Free

Laser treatment is a non-invasive procedure used to permanently reduce unwanted hair and for long-term hair removal. Laser treatment can effectively eliminate undesired hair from all parts of the body. Unlike many other hair removal methods, laser treatment leaves your skin looking and feeling much smoother and softer.

What is treatment like?

Preliminary setup involves cleansing and shaving the area to be treated. A laser is then directed toward the area and produces a beam of highly concentrated light. Without damaging the surrounding tissue, controlled pulses of light penetrate the skin and are absorbed by hair follicles. The heat generated in the process discourages and ultimately destroys the hair and its potential for regrowth. Post-treatment includes a clean up of the treated area and the application of a sun block. Large areas such those found on the back, shoulders, abdomen, and legs are rapidly treated. Smaller facial areas like the lip, chin, and bear can be treated in minutes.

What are the benefits of Laser Hair Removal?

- FDA-approved for permanent hair reduction
- No "down-time". Immediately resume regular activities.
- Less pain and discomfort compared to other treatment methods.
- Large areas can be quickly treated.
- Changes of scarring and pigmentation change are minimized.

How many treatments are required?

Because the laser affects only hair follicles that are in the growth phase, more than one treatment may be necessary. During a consultation, the approximate number of required treatments will be determined based on your particular situation.

Who are candidates for treatment?

Millions of men and women have been successfully treated. Treatment is customized according to hair color, texture, and the area being targeted. Treatment for most hair colors typically yields high levels of success and patient satisfaction. Treatment is effective on all skin types, including dark-skinned individuals of all ethnic origins.

Is treatment painful?

The procedure is well tolerated by most patients since only a mild sting is felt. Local anesthesia and pain medication are not required. A topical anesthetic may be used for the treatment of more sensitive areas.

Are there any possible side effects?

Side effects are rare. Sensitivity, irritation, and redness may occur at the treatment site but then quickly disappears. Susceptibility to these side effects will be identified during your consultation. To greatly minimize the risk of side effects, sun exposure must be limited prior to and immediately following treatment.

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GentleLASE® Laser System

Hair Removal Laser

What is the Candela GentleLASE® laser any why is it a safe treatment?

Lasers have been used for many years for a variety of medical cosmetic procedures including treatment of facial and leg veins, age spots and rejuvenating the skin on the face. The GentleLASE® System, a revolutionary long-pulse high energy alexandrite laser emits a gentle beam of light that passes through the skin to the hair follicle where it is absorbed. The laser energy is transformed into heat, which destroys the hair follicle leaving the surrounding skin unaffected. The skin is further protected during treatment by a Dynamic Cooling Device™ where cryogen is sprayed onto the skin cooling the upper layers and providing patients with increased comfort. The GentleLASE® selectivity helps to protect the skin, while effectively treating the unwanted hair.

What conditions are treated with the laser?

Traditional hair removal techniques, such as shaving, plucking, waxing, and depilatory creams provide only temporary relief. Until now, the only recognized way to remove hair permanently has been by electrolysis - which can be tedious, time-consuming, and uncomfortable. The GentleLASE® System safely removes unwanted body hair without damaging the delicate pores and structures of the skin. Facial and bikini areas are usually completed in less than ten minutes; legs, backs and larger areas can take longer.

What other conditions does the GentleLASE® treat?

The GentleLASE® System is also effective for the treatment of the large, "blue" leg veins.

What does the treatment include?

Depending on the amount of hair treated, the procedure varies from patient to patient.

Generally, the treatment will include:

- Wearing safety eyewear to protect the practitioner and patient's eyes from the laser light during the procedure.
- A small hand piece will be used that touches the skin to deliver the laser light. A light spray of coolant onto the skin will be felt just before each laser pulse.
- A test area will be done prior to the entire treatment. Your full treatment may be done on the same day or up to two weeks later, depending on the skin reaction.
- Most patients experience little discomfort at the treatment site because of the dynamic cooling device.
- The degree of discomfort varies with each person, depending on his/her pain threshold. Topical anesthesia may also be requested based on individual preferences or tolerances. Be sure to discuss this with your practitioner in advance of the laser treatment.
- The procedure can take as little as ten minutes or up to an hour, depending on the area treated.

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- The treated area may become pink or red within 30 minutes of treatment! this may last from a few hours to several days and is relieved with the application of ice or cooling gels.

What precautions should be taken before and after treatment?

- Avoid the sun 4-6 weeks before and after treatment or until your practitioner allows it.
- You must avoid electrolysis, plucking or waxing hair for 6 weeks prior to treatment.
- If you have had a history of perioral herpes, prophylactic antiviral therapy may be prescribed.
- If you have a dark skin type, a bleaching cream may be started 4-6 weeks before treatment to optimize results.
- You should discuss your desired results and the improvements you expect to achieve with your practitioner. Together you can decide if your expectations will be met and if this laser treatment is the best option.

How many treatments will I need?

Hair grows in cycles. The number of treatments required depends upon your skin color, hair color and coarseness of the hair. Everyone will require at least 2-3 treatments as the process is only effective on hair during the early growth phase.

Is this procedure covered by insurance?

Most insurance companies do not offer reimbursement for cosmetic procedures. However, consult with your insurance carrier for more information.

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Directions

To Tysons Corner office location:

8130 Boone Blvd. #340 Tysons Corner, VA 22182; **703-893-1114**

1. From Mclean, Tysons Corner area:

Take International Drive south to Leesburg Pike (Route 7) where it becomes Gallows Road. Make a LEFT turn at the **first** traffic light on Gallows Road after crossing Rt. 7 onto Boone Blvd. Take an **IMMEDIATE** left into the parking lot of our Bldg. 8130 Boone Blvd. #340, Tysons Corner, VA 22182. Our building is behind Jarred Jewelers and McDonalds.

2. From points west of Tysons Corner office location: Reston, Herndon, Leesburg, Sterling, Lansdowne, Loudon County, Clark County, Warren County and Frederick County:

Take 66 East to 495 North or Leesburg Pike East. Our Tysons Office location is off Leesburg Pike (Route 7) and Gallows Road. Make a LEFT turn at the **first** traffic light on Gallows Road after crossing Rt. 7 onto Boone Blvd. Take an **IMMEDIATE** left into the parking lot of our Bldg. 8130 Boone Blvd. #340 Tysons Corner, VA 22182.

To Woodbridge office location:

2200 Opitz Blvd Suite 245 Woodbridge, VA; **703-492-4140**

1. From Prince William County, Manassas, Manassas Park, Woodbridge/Lake Ridge, Dumfries to our Woodbridge location:

We are at 2200 Opitz Blvd Suite 245 Woodbridge, VA, across the street from Potomac Library. One block east (towards Rt. 1) from Potomac Hospital and Wegman's.

To Stafford office location:

125 Hospital Center Boulevard, Suite 313 Stafford, VA 22554

Toll free **1-800-265-2653**

1. Coming from points south of the Stafford office: Stafford, Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania County, King George County, Caroline County, Westmoreland County, Northern Neck Region, Richmond County, King and Queen County, Warrenton County, Fauquier County, Orange County, Culpepper County, Essex County, Westmoreland County:

Take I-95 North to exit 140, Turn Right onto Courthouse Road/Route 630 (approximately 1 mi.). Take Right onto Route 1 (approximately. 1/2 mi.). Turn Left onto Hospital Center Blvd. At the **THIRD** entrance make a left into the parking lot of the Stafford Medical Pavilion (**Behind Stafford Hospital**).