



Lynn Cloudsdale opening up her dipping tank.



Deciding on what design to use as the example piece.

## Something New

Story and photo by Nathan Zbeetnoff



Laying the design down into the dipping tank.



Submerging the example piece into the design.

*Cloudsdale is working at something that she never saw herself doing in her future.*

Local artist Lynn Cloudsdale of Trenton, Ont. is going corporate and she bought a business called Mild2Wild Trenton, working on hydrographics.

Hydrographics is the method of applying printed designs to three-dimensional surfaces.

After some hardship in the past, Cloudsdale was looking for an opportunity in an accounting job in the Quinte West area, after completing three-year accounting and business program at Loyalist College.

When she originally partnered up with a friend named Jason Leger, Cloudsdale thought she was going to be working on the accounting side of things and nothing more. Two and a half months later, Leger left Cloudsdale to continue selling other Mild2Wild franchises.

"This business isn't for everybody," Cloudsdale said. This in turn meant that Cloudsdale had the whole establishment to herself and had to teach herself what to do.

"I'm fairly quick at learning things. Around here, you learn by error," she said.

In the beginning, Cloudsdale was only working on small objects to dip but is now working on big projects like fridge doors, golf carts and motorcycle outside plastic. Most of the objects that Cloudsdale works on now are the interior in vehicles (e.g. shifter knob, side panels, steering wheel, etc.).

For the most part, it is plastic, fiberglass, wood, ceramic and metal that are hydro-dipped.

Cloudsdale is comfortable with having a business because this is her second time around, only this time, she physically owns an establishment. Prior to Mild2 Wild business, Cloudsdale owned a bookkeeping business, recording financial transactions working on payroll, HST and organizing sales.

"I've been around self-employed people my entire life," she said. Learning how to operate a business and take care of multiple tasks at once wasn't all that much of a challenge for Cloudsdale.

"I was a little nervous at the beginning," she said.

Cloudsdale owns all of the equipment she has acquired, but is renting the space she is currently in.

Cloudsdale is going to relocate next year to Smithfield, located between Trenton and Brighton when she is financially stable. Leger is currently renovating the location in Smithfield, so it will be ready for Cloudsdale when she is ready to transfer locations.

"There is more exposure in Smithfield,"

"The commute isn't an issue for me," said Cloudsdale who lives in Belleville, and works five days a week. Driving to Trenton isn't a hassle because of her bookkeeping job on the side. She has to travel constantly to please her clients, who are scattered across the Quinte West area.

At the moment, Cloudsdale is using the pre-printed designs that are supplied by Leger, the owner of Mild2Wild franchises but in the near future Cloudsdale is hoping to dip her toe into the water and experiment with her own artistic side and turn her artwork into a design she could use in Mild2Wild Trenton.

[www.nathanzbeetnoff.com](http://www.nathanzbeetnoff.com)



Cloudsdale showing off the finish product. This piece is used as an example for customers to see what their product might look like.