

SMITHVILLE



Film Friendly City Guide



FILM GUIDE

Guide to Filming in Smithville, Texas



City of Smithville, Texas – Film Friendly Community

317 Main Street P.O. Box 449 Smithville, TX 78957

Phone: 512-237-3282

www.ci.smithville.tx.us

Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce & Film Liaison

Phone: 512-237-2313

www.smithvilletx.org/film-friendly-city/

***Texas Film Commission Certified Film Friendly Community First Texas
Film Commission designated “Film Friendly” city in 2008.***



FIRST CERTIFIED TOWN IN TEXAS
BY TEXAS FILM COMMISSION



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CONTACT INFORMATION

City of Smithville

317 Main Street P.O. Box 449 Smithville, TX 78957 Phone: 512-237-3282 Website:
www.ci.smithville.tx.us

Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce & Film Committee

Phone: 512-237-2313 Website: www.smithvilletx.org/film-friendly-city/

Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT)

Phone: 512-321-2221

WELCOME & OVERVIEW

Welcome to Smithville, Texas — a community known throughout Texas for its authentic small-town charm, historic architecture, cinematic character, and strong support of the film industry.

Smithville has built a reputation as one of Texas' most recognizable film destinations and proudly became the first Texas Film Commission designated "Film Friendly" city in 2008. Located in Bastrop County along the Colorado River, Smithville offers filmmakers a unique combination of historic settings, scenic landscapes, welcoming residents, and easy access to major Texas cities.

With preserved downtown streets, historic homes, railroad heritage, parks, open spaces, and a supportive local community, Smithville continues to attract filmmakers, photographers, and production teams seeking authentic Texas locations.

The City of Smithville and the Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce Film Committee work together to assist productions with coordination, logistics, local resources, and permitting.

WHY FILM IN SMITHVILLE?

Authentic Texas Character

Smithville is widely recognized for its preserved historic downtown, classic Texas architecture, and welcoming atmosphere. The community offers visual diversity suitable for period productions, commercials, independent films, television productions, documentaries, and photography.

Film Friendly Community

Smithville was the first city designated as a Texas Film Commission “Film Friendly” community in 2008.

Proven Film Destination

Smithville has served as the filming location for numerous productions including:

- Hope Floats
- The Tree of Life
- Doonby
- Bernie
- Vice – Miranda Lambert
- Panic

The town continues to attract filmmakers and visitors interested in Texas film history.

Convenient Location

Smithville is centrally located between Austin, Houston, and San Antonio, providing access to airports, lodging, production support, and regional transportation.

Diverse Filming Locations

Smithville offers:

- Historic Main Street
- Railroad settings
- Historic homes
- Small-town neighborhoods
- Parks and outdoor recreation areas
- River access
- Rural roads and ranchland surroundings
- Historic storefronts
- Community gathering spaces

Supportive Community

The Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce's Film Committee and City staff work closely with production teams to help facilitate filming needs while protecting the interests of local residents and businesses.

FILM FRIENDLY CITY INFORMATION

The Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce Film Committee assists production companies interested in filming in Smithville.

The Film Committee works with filmmakers to:

- Answer production questions
- Help coordinate filming logistics
- Provide information regarding local ordinances
- Assist with location scouting
- Connect productions with community resources
- Support production planning

The Smithville Film Committee participates in film industry networking opportunities and works closely with organizations including:

- Texas Film Commission

The Chamber also assists with familiarization tours and can provide information regarding lodging and dining opportunities for location scouts.

GUIDELINES FOR FILMING IN SMITHVILLE

Purpose

The following guidelines are intended to protect the personal and property rights of our residents and businesses. The City Manager reserves the right to impose additional regulations in the interest of public safety if deemed necessary.

These guidelines apply to:

- Commercial filming
- Episodic television
- Feature films
- Movies
- Music & Video Productions
- PSAs & Other Productions
- Television programs
- Commercial productions
- Related production activities

The guidelines cover requests involving:

- City-owned property
- Streets
- Rights-of-way
- Public buildings
- Commercial use of private property that may affect adjacent public or private property
- Production equipment and personnel

City Management Authority

The City Manager may authorize the use of any street, right-of-way, or public building, equipment or personnel for commercial uses in the filming or taping of movies, television programs, commercials, music videos, or training films and related activities/productions. In conjunction with these uses, the City Manager may require that any or all of the conditions and/or remuneration as specified on the application be met as a prerequisite to that use.

The applicant agrees that The City of Smithville shall have full control over the use of public streets and buildings of the City while being used, as well as control over the hours of production and the general location of the production. The City reserves the full and absolute right to prohibit all filming or to order cessation of filming if determined to be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare. The applicant shall agree to allow the respective City departments (i.e., Police, Fire, Building) to inspect all structures and/or devices and equipment to be used in connection with the filming and taping if required by the City Manager.

The City of Smithville reserves the right to:

- Control production hours and filming locations
- Inspect equipment and structures used in production
- Impose additional regulations for public safety
- Stop or prohibit filming determined to be hazardous or detrimental to public health, safety, or welfare

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Before filing an application for filming the Office of the City Manager must be contacted to discuss the production's specific filming requirements and the feasibility of filming. A copy of the script must be sent for review / approval at least 72 hours prior to permit application.

Any commercial producer who desires to undertake a commercial film, music or tape production is required to complete and return the attached application for filming to the Office of the City Manager, for:

- Commercials, Music Videos, or Shorts - a minimum of three (3) business days prior to the commencement of filming or any substantial activity related to the project.
- Feature Films or TV Series - a minimum of five (5) business days prior to the commencement of filming or any substantial activity related to the project.

Commercial productions are required to complete and submit the City's filming application.

Productions should be prepared to provide:

- Production details
- Filming dates and times
- Location information
- Equipment lists
- Parking and staging plans
- Traffic control plans when necessary
- Public safety considerations

PRODUCTION REQUIREMENTS & COORDINATION

Fees

An APPLICATION PROCESSING FEE of \$200.00 and a separate SECURITY DEPOSIT of \$500.00 should accompany each application for filming. The SECURITY DEPOSIT will be refunded 2-weeks after the production wraps if there are no damages or additional fees are incurred due to production changes. A processing fee will be added to Credit Card transactions.

USE OF CITY EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL

The applicant will agree to pay for the costs of any Police, Fire, Public Works, or other City personnel assigned to the project (whether specifically requested by the producer or not). Remuneration rates for the use of any City equipment, including Police squad cars and fire equipment, will be established on a case-by-case basis. The applicant will agree to pay in full, promptly upon receipt of an invoice, the charges incurred or the City Manager may require a deposit for proposed use of the equipment in advance.

The City Manager has the authority to require additional police or fire coverage if it is determined to be in the best interest for public safety. Off-duty police officers or firefighters are to be paid one and one-half times their hourly rate.

Insurance

Productions should be prepared to provide proof of insurance and any required documentation requested by the City. The City must be added as additional during duration of production.

Public Property Use

Any use of public streets, buildings, parks, rights-of-way, or municipal facilities will require City approval.

Private Property

Production companies filming on private property are responsible for obtaining written permission from property owners.

Notification Requirements

Productions may be required to notify nearby businesses, residents, and property owners when filming activities impact access, parking, or traffic.

Traffic Control

Street closures and traffic impacts may require:

- Police coordination
- Traffic control plans
- Detour plans
- TXDOT coordination for state highways or major roads
- Professional signage

PUBLIC SAFETY & STREET CLOSURES

Any production planning to:

- Close streets
- Restrict traffic
- Impact public parking
- Use public rights-of-way
- Create significant public disruption

must coordinate with the City of Smithville and any appropriate department used during production. Separate fees may apply.

Additional review may be required for:

- Stunts
- Pyrotechnics
- Drones
- Special effects
- Weapons or simulated weapons
- Large crowds
- Traffic rerouting

TXDOT coordination may also be required for any work or filing on state highways or major roadways.

BUILDING MODIFICATIONS & HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Smithville's historic character is one of its greatest assets. Productions planning temporary or permanent modifications to buildings or historic properties should coordinate with the City and property owners in advance.

Filming within historic districts or involving modifications to structures may require additional approvals.

Productions are responsible for restoring any impacted property to its original condition unless otherwise agreed upon.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Recreation, Arts & Culture

Smithville offers a variety of public spaces and cultural resources including:

- Smithville Recreation Center
- Riverbend Park
- Veterans Memorial Park
- Colorado River access
- Historic downtown district
- Cultural District amenities
- Public art and murals

Parks & Outdoor Spaces

Smithville includes numerous parks and recreation areas suitable for filming and photography.

- Riverbend Park is a 100-acre park located along the Colorado River.

Nearby outdoor recreation opportunities also include:

- Buescher State Park
- Bastrop State Park

Historic Downtown

Smithville's historic downtown includes:

- Historic storefronts
- Railroad history
- Main Street architecture
- Historic homes

- Walkable streetscapes

Local Businesses & Hospitality

The community offers:

- Lodging options
- Restaurants
- Shopping
- Production-friendly local businesses
- Visitor amenities

LOCAL FILM HISTORY

Smithville has earned statewide and national recognition as a filming destination.

Hope Floats (1998)

Hope Floats brought national attention to Smithville, Texas, when the town was selected as one of the primary filming locations for the beloved 1998 romantic drama starring Sandra Bullock and Harry Connick Jr. With its charming historic streets, welcoming atmosphere, and timeless small-town character, Smithville provided the perfect backdrop for the film's heartfelt story and quickly became part of movie history.

Today, visitors from across Texas and beyond continue to travel to Smithville to experience the places they remember from the movie. Fans enjoy walking along historic Main Street, exploring recognizable filming locations, and taking photos at some of the town's most iconic scenes. The famous house featured in the film remains one of the most popular stops, while many visitors also enjoy discovering local shops, restaurants, and scenic areas that appeared throughout the movie.

For many guests, visiting Smithville offers more than just a movie tour — it provides an opportunity to step into the charm and atmosphere that made Hope Floats so memorable. The town's preserved historic architecture, friendly community, and authentic Texas feel continue to create a cinematic experience that draws film enthusiasts, tourists, and curious travelers year after year.

The Tree of Life (2011)

The Tree of Life also filmed scenes in Smithville, further contributing to the city's growing reputation as a desirable filming destination within the Texas film industry. Released in 2011 and directed by Terrence Malick, the visually acclaimed film brought additional attention to Smithville's authentic small-town setting, historic character, and scenic surroundings.

The presence of productions such as Hope Floats and The Tree of Life has helped establish Smithville as a recognizable film-friendly community where filmmakers can capture the charm and atmosphere of classic Texas towns. Today, visitors and film enthusiasts continue to appreciate Smithville not only for its movie history, but also for the unique sense of place that has made it appealing to filmmakers for decades.

Doonby (2013)

Doonby was also filmed on location in Smithville, further adding to the city's growing legacy within the Texas film industry. Productions such as Hope Floats, The Tree of Life, and Doonby have showcased Smithville's authentic small-town charm, historic architecture, and welcoming atmosphere on screen.

The City's long-standing relationship with the Texas Film Commission and its continued commitment to supporting film and television productions have helped establish Smithville as a respected and film-friendly destination in Texas. Today, filmmakers and visitors alike are drawn to the community for its cinematic appeal, unique character, and rich film history.

Additional list of productions can be found at www.smithvilletx.org/Movie-Sites/

APPENDIX A

GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL FILMING

The City of Smithville requires commercial productions to complete a filming application prior to filming activities involving:

- Public property
- Streets and rights-of-way
- Public buildings
- Activities impacting public access or safety

Application materials should include:

- Production title
- Production company information
- Primary contact information
- Filming dates and times
- Proposed filming locations
- Equipment details
- Parking and staging information
- Traffic control plans if applicable
- Public safety considerations
- Insurance documentation

The Office of the City Manager should be contacted prior to submitting an application a minimum of 72 hours prior to production. It is advised to read the Guidelines for Filming in Smithville, TX for the time frame. Some prices may be subject to change.

Reference: Guidelines and Application for Commercial Filming Available through the City of Smithville Film Committee webpage.

Guidelines for Filming in Smithville, TX

I. PURPOSE

The following guidelines are intended to protect the personal and property rights of our residents and businesses. The City Manager reserves the right to impose additional regulations in the interest of public safety if deemed necessary.

These guidelines cover requests for commercial use of City-owned property (streets, right-of-ways, and public buildings), commercial use of private property which may affect adjacent public or private property, equipment and personnel in the filming of movies, TV shows, commercials, and related activities.

II. CITY CONTROL/CITY MANAGER AUTHORITY

The City Manager may authorize the use of any street, right-of-way, or public building, equipment or personnel for commercial uses in the filming or taping of movies, television programs, commercials, or training films and related activities. In conjunction with these uses, the City Manager may require that any or all of the conditions and/or remuneration as specified on the application be met as a prerequisite to that use.

The applicant agrees that The City of Smithville shall have full control over the use of public streets and buildings of the City while being used, as well as control over the hours of production and the general location of the production. The City reserves the full and absolute right to prohibit all filming or to order cessation of filming if determined to be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare. The applicant shall agree to allow the respective City departments (i.e., Police, Fire, Building) to inspect all structures and/or devices and equipment to be used in connection with the filming and taping if required by the City Manager.

III. PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Before filing an application for filming the Office of the City Manager must be contacted to discuss the production's specific filming requirements and the feasibility of filming. A copy of the script must be sent for review / approval.

Any commercial producer who desires to undertake a commercial film or tape production is required to complete and return the attached application for filming to the Office of the City Manager, for:

- **Commercials, Music Videos, or Shorts** - a minimum of three (3) business days prior to the commencement of filming or any substantial activity related to the project.
- **Feature Films or TV Series** - a minimum of five (5) business days prior to the commencement of filming or any substantial activity related to the project.

IV. FEES

An APPLICATION PROCESSING FEE of **\$200.00** and a SECURITY DEPOSIT of **\$500.00** should accompany each application for filming. The SECURITY DEPOSIT will be refunded 2-weeks after the production wraps.

V. USE OF CITY EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL

The applicant will agree to pay for the costs of any Police, Fire, Public Works, or other City personnel assigned to the project (whether specifically requested by the producer or not). Remuneration rates for the use of any City equipment, including Police squad cars and fire equipment, will be established on a case-by-case basis. The applicant will agree to pay in full, promptly upon receipt of an invoice, the charges incurred or the City Manager may require a deposit for proposed use of the equipment in advance.

The City Manager has the authority to require additional police or fire coverage if it is determined to be in the best interest for public safety. Off-duty police officers or firefighters are to be paid one and one-half times their hourly rate.

VI. USE OF CITY PROPERTY

The City Manager may authorize the use of any street, right-of-way, public building, name, trademark or logo, equipment or personnel for commercial uses in the filming or taping of movies, television programs, commercials, or training films and related activities. In conjunction with these uses, the City Manager may require that any or all of the conditions and/or remuneration as specified on the application be met as a prerequisite to that use. A security or damage deposit may be required based on production activity.

Depending upon the extent of the use of City property, the producer agrees to reimburse the City for inconveniences when using public property. Following is the rate schedule:

A. Total or partial use (regular operating hours) per day of a public building:	\$500 per day
B. Total or partial use of a public building (after hours):	\$250 per day
C. Total closure of public street or right-of-way (including parking lots and on-street parking):	\$150 per day
D. Partial closure or obstruction of public street or right-of-way (including parking lots and on-street parking):	\$75 per day

The applicant agrees that The City of Smithville shall have full control over the use of the name, trademark and logo, public streets and buildings of the City while being used, as well as control over the hours of production and the general location of the production. The City reserves the full and absolute right to prohibit all filming or to order cessation of filming if determined to be hazardous to the public health, safety or welfare.

VII. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES

The applicant shall provide a report listing the number of vehicles and types of equipment to be used during the filming including their proposed hours of use and their proposed parking locations. Such locations will need to be specifically approved by the City so as to maintain traffic safety. On-street parking or use of public parking lots is subject to City approval. The use of exterior lighting, power generators, or any other noise or light producing equipment requires on-site approval of the City.

VIII. HOURS OF FILMING

Unless permission has been obtained from the City in advance and affected property owners are notified, filming will be limited to the following hours: Monday thru Friday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, Sunday and holidays 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

IX. NOTIFICATION OF BUSINESS / PROPERTY OWNERS / RESIDENTS

The applicant shall provide a short written description, approved by the City Manager, of the schedule for the proposed production to the owners and residents of each property in the affected neighborhood (as defined by boundaries set by the City Manager). The applicant, or his designee, shall notify all business / property owners **at least 72-hours in advance** whose property is adjacent to the film location (or area being closed). The applicant shall provide a map of the area that indicates all obstructions to be placed in the closure area. The notification must indicate (by signature) whether the business / property owner approves or disapproves the proposed film location and/or closure area. SEE attached "Film Notification and Sign-Off Request Form".

X. CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

The producer shall attach a certificate of insurance, naming The City of Smithville as an additional insured, in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 general liability, including bodily injury and property damage with a \$2 million umbrella; and automobile liability (if applicable) in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 including bodily injury and property damage.

XI. HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

The producer shall sign the following Hold Harmless Agreement holding the City harmless from any claim that may arise from their use of designated public property, right-of-way, or equipment in conjunction with the permitted use:

CITY OF SMITHVILLE, TX FILM PERMIT NOTIFICATION AND SIGNOFF REQUEST

The **City of Smithville, TX** requires that all business / property owners whose property is adjacent to the film location (or area being closed) be notified and provided with a map of the area that indicates all obstructions to be placed in the closure area. The notification must indicate (by signature) whether the property owner / resident approves or disapproves of the proposed film location and/or closure area.

Type of Film Permit Requested: ☐ Commercial ☐ Feature Film ☐ Music Video ☐ TV Series
☐ Short ☐ PSA ☐ Other

For additional information concerning the actual filming at this location, please contact:

(Film Company's Contact Name)

(Phone Number)

_____ is applying for a **FILM PERMIT** for the following production:
(Company Name)

(Name of Film)

The filming is scheduled for the following dates and times: _____

The filming will close or partially close the following streets: _____

The filming will consist of the following: _____

Business Owner / Property Owner / Resident:

Please fill out this section completely as this information is used by the City of Smithville to determine whether or not the filming activities indicated above will be approved or denied.

☐ APPROVE

☐ DISAPPROVE

RECEIVED MAP: ☐ YES ☐ NO

(Print Name and Title)

(Signature)

(Print Address)

(Phone Number)

☐ Residence ☐ Business

(Check One)

(Name of Business)

Comments: _____

Received by City of Smithville on (date): _____

Name: _____

4. Describe any areas in which public access will be restricted during production:

5. Describe alterations to property:

6. Number and type of production vehicles to be used and location(s) where vehicles will be parked:

7. Location where crew will be fed, if not at production location:

8. Location where extras will be held, if not at production location:

Application completed by:

Name/Title: _____ Date: _____

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

The "Guidelines for Filming in Smithville, Texas" apply to all filming activities, and the Office of the City Manager may require the applicant to acknowledge receipt of the guidelines prior to approving this application.

APPENDIX B

SMITHVILLE FILM LOCATIONS & MOVIE SITES

Popular filming and movie-related locations in Smithville include:

- Historic Main Street
- Downtown Smithville
- Hope Floats filming sites
- Historic homes and neighborhoods
- Railroad areas
- Riverbend Park
- Colorado River access points
- Historic commercial buildings

The Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce maintains information regarding movie sites and film-related tourism.

- Movie Sites Information: www.smithvilletx.org/movie-sites/
- Texas Film Trail Information: <https://gov.texas.gov/film/trail/smithville-texas>
- Bastrop County Tourism: <https://explorebastropcounty.com/>

I certify that I represent the firm which will be performing the filming/taping at the locations specified on the attached permit application. I further certify that I and my firm will perform in accordance with the directions and specifications of The City of Smithville, and that I and my firm will indemnify and hold harmless The City of Smithville for and from any loss, damage, expense, claims and costs of every nature and kind arising out of or in connection with the filming/taping pursuant to this permit.

Signed: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

XII. LIABILITY

The applicant agrees to pay in full, promptly upon receipt of an invoice, the costs of repair for any and all damage to public or private property, resulting from or in connection with, the production, and restore the property to its condition prior to the production.

APPENDIX C

IMPORTANT WEBSITES & RESOURCES

City of Smithville Film Committee

<https://www.ci.smithville.tx.us/180/Film-Committee>

Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce Film Committee

[https://www.smithvilletx.org/film-friendly-city /](https://www.smithvilletx.org/film-friendly-city/)

Texas Film Commission

<https://gov.texas.gov/film>

Texas Film Trail – Smithville

<https://gov.texas.gov/film/trail/smithville-texas>

Smithville Movie Sites

<https://www.smithvilletx.org/movie-sites/>

City of Smithville

<https://www.ci.smithville.tx.us/>

The Story of Film Friendly



More than a decade after the release of "Hope Floats", Smithville continues to get visitors who want to see the house where lead character Birdee Pruitt found refuge from her broken marriage and the downtown backdrop where she rekindled her romance with Justin Matisse. It's tourism like this, where Smithville plays a leading character in a large-scale film, that led a group of its citizens on a quest to make Smithville the premiere small-town filming destination in Texas.

In January 2008, only five days after the introduction of the state program, Smithville was named the first Film Friendly Community in Texas by the Texas Film Commission. The Smithville Music & Film Commission (SMFC) was created in 2008 shortly after filming wrapped for "The Tree of Life."

The Film Friendly designation and the dedication of the SMFC, its volunteers and the City of Smithville to assist filmmakers in creating their vision, have made Smithville a destination for filmmakers.

The "can do" attitude and friendliness of the town's citizens have kept filmmakers coming back and spreading the word about Smithville, Texas a premiere film friendly community.

Photo Credits:
© Mary Huber, © Terry Haggerty



SMITHVILLE Texas

Film Map



Brought
to you by the
Smithville Area
Chamber of Commerce
& Visitor Center
P.O. Box 218 • 106 NE 1st Street
Smithville • Texas 78957
chamber@smithvilletx.org • www.smithvilletx.org



VISIT
SMITHVILLE

www.visitsmithville.org



106 NE 1st Street, Smithville, TX 78957
512-237-2313

chamber@smithvilletx.org
www.smithvilletx.org



"Hope Floats" drama, romance 1998

Humiliated on national television when her best friend and husband, Bill, admit they are in love and having an affair, BreeDee Pruitt moves back to her hometown of Smithville, Texas. Returning to her mother's home is not easy. Her young daughter misses her father. BreeDee finds that having been the most popular girl in high school, cheerleader who married the high school quarterback, left a bitter feeling among many of her peers. Justin Matisse has feelings for her after all of these years, but can BreeDee put her past behind her?

Sandra Bullock, Harry Connick Jr., Gena Rowlands.

Director Forest Whitaker



"The Tree of Life" drama 2011

We trace the evolution of Jack, an eleven-year-old boy in 1950s Waco, one of three brothers. At first all seems marvelous to him, who views the world as his mother does, with love and mercy. His father tries to teach his son the world's way of putting oneself first. The picture darkens as he has his first glimpses of sickness, suffering and death. The adult Jack seeks to discover himself and his place in the world.

Brad Pitt, Jessica Chastain, Fiona Shaw, Sean Penn.

Director Terrence Malick

Palme d'Or winner, Cannes France Film Festival 2011.

Nominated for 3 Academy Awards 2012



"Artois the Goat" comedy, romance 2008

Lab technician Virgil Gurdies embarks on an epic quest to create the greatest goat cheese the world has ever known, and reclaim the heart of his beloved. Despite lack of resources, experience, or basic competency, Virgil heads for the hills with a felonious German baker, a grave-digging hermit, and a tiny white goat named Artois.

Mark Scheibmeir, Sydney Andrews.

Writer/Directors Cliff Bogart, Kyle Bogart.

Numerous awards at film festivals 2009-11.



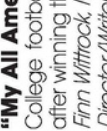
"Five Time Champion" drama 2012

A coming-of-age story about Julius, a bright boy studying worms for his school science fair while dealing with difficult issues. His mother is dating his high school principal, he and his girlfriend aren't sure where they want to take their relationship, his grandfather may be having an affair, and his biological father might be a homosexual, but he doesn't know because he hasn't seen the man in years. This film is a look at life, love, adultery, and acceptance through the eyes of children, a lens film rarely looks through.

John Gries, Betty Buckley, Dana Wheeler-Nicholson, Ryan Akin.

Debut film of Writer/Director Bernad Mader.

MPS Studios' Texas Filmmaker Award, Dallas International Film Festival 2011.

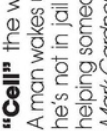


"My All American" biography, drama, sports 2015

College football star Freddie Steinmark is diagnosed with cancer after winning the national title in 1969.

Finn Wittrock, Robin Tunney, Sarah Bolger, Aaron Eckhart.

Director/Writer Angela Pizzo.



"Cell" the webseries horror, drama 2010

A man wakes up in a cell after a night on the town. When he realizes he's not in jail and he's not alone, he fights to stay who he is while helping someone else remember who they were.

Mark Gardner, Jourdan Gibson, Kevin McCarthy, Natalie Seif.

Director Mark Gardner.



"Natural Selection" comedy, drama 2012

A barren Christian housewife, Linda White's world is turned upside-down when she learns that her dying husband, Abe, has a 23-year old illegitimate son named Raymond in Florida. Linda grants Abe's final wish to find Raymond before her husband passes away. Along the way, Linda's wonderfully bizarre relationship with Raymond teaches her more about herself than she imagined, forcing her to come to terms with her troubled past.

Rachael Harris, Matt O'Leary, Jon Gries.

Writer/Director Robbie Pickering.

Best Narrative Feature, 7 more awards at SXSW Film Festival 2011, numerous other awards.



"Doonby" drama 2011

Sam Doonby, a mysterious drifter, gets off a Greyhound bus in a small town, finding work at a local bar where his musical talents make him popular, especially with the spoiled daughter of Dr. Cyrus Reaper. Sam seems to be in the right place to avert disasters until suspicion drive folks to ask who he is. So he disappears and things start to go wrong. His rejection results in terrible shocks for the whole town, including the doctor and his family as Cyrus' past comes back to haunt him.

John Schneider, Jenn Gozian, Robert Davi.

Writer/Director Peter Mackenzie.



"Beneath the Darkness" thriller 2011

The movie focuses on Travis, a teenager who tries to dig up the dirt on the house inhabited by Ely, a well-respected mortician in the community, following the death of Travis' best friend.

Dennis Quaid, Brett Cullen, Tony Oller, Aimee Teegarden, Devon Werkheiser, Stephen Lunsford.

Director Martin Guigui, Writer Bruce Wilkinson.

Reviewed at Cannes Film Festival 2011, France.

"The Teller & the Truth" crime, mystery, romance 2015

The story of the disappearance of Francis, a beautiful young bank teller missing since her car was found submerged in a river in 1974. She has become the subject of myth and legend, and the town and townspeople have never been the same.

Lellani Galvan, Russell Gustave Ochoa, Helena Stoddard.

Director Andrew Shapter.

Writers Patty Mynahan, Nevie Owens, Andrew Shapter.

"Lost in the Sun" action, drama, thriller 2014

The story of John, a small time crook, who finds an unlikely accomplice in Louis, a newly-orphaned teenage boy. As their open-road adventure progresses and John drags the kid on a string of robberies, the pair forge an unexpected and powerful bond.

Josh Duhamel, Josh Wiggins, Lynn Collins, Emma Fuhrmann.

Director/Writer Trey Nelson.



"Bernie" comedy, crime, drama 2012

Based on the true story of Berthard "Bernie" Tiede, a mortician who becomes companion to an 81 year old widow, Marjorie Nugent. Tiede was convicted of shooting Nugent in 1996 and hiding her body in a freezer for 9 months, pretending she was still alive. So beloved, no one wants to prosecute him.

Jack Black, Shirley Maclaine, Matthew McConaughey.

Writers Richard Linklater, Skip Hollandsworth, Director Richard Linklater.

Movie "kicked off" Los Angeles Film Festival 2011.



"Under the Western Sun" comedy 2012

Journalist John Miller wants a job at a prestigious newspaper, which he gets on one condition, that he gets the real story on Mr. Billionaire, a wealthy entrepreneur who has gone bankrupt. There is one problem. Mr. Billionaire is John's father.

Mark Scheibmeir, Troy Streuer, Pam Eichner.

Director/Writer/Producer Danny Cameron.

Producer/Writer Miranda Smith.



"A Country Called Home" drama 2015

Ellie feels detached from her life, and when she learns that her estranged alcoholic father has died, her world is disrupted and she begins a journey that takes her to a small town in Texas.

Imogen Poots, Mackenzie Davis, Ryan Bingham.

Director Anna Axster.

Writers Anna Axster, Jim Beggarly.

"Red Winds" short, drama, thriller 2013

bound by love and blinded by fear. Eldest brother Danny attempts to protect his family in the absence of his father and fill the loving role of his disconnected mother while taking care of his younger brother, Sam and sister Ashley. After his own sanity is challenged in doing so, he must make a terrifying decision between the safety of his family and love for his brother.

Liz Waters, Louis Monicolas, Caleb Burgess, Arthur Dale, Jolyn Janis.

Director Jay Galvan.

Writers JD Carrera, Jason De Leon, Jolyn Janis.

"The Association" adventure, comedy, fantasy 2014

When horror romance novelist John Cassidy and his family move to the sleepy suburbs of Harker Heights, they suspect something is not quite right with their homeowners association.

Ryan Wickerham, Chase Joliet, Ken Thomas, Emily Kaye.

Directors Ryan Wickerham, David Precopio.

Writers Ryan Wickerham, Ari Said, Michael Charron, John A. O'Connell.



"Panic" Adventure, crime, drama, TV series 2021

No one knows who invented Panic or when it first began. But in the forgotten rural town of Carp, Texas, the game is the only way out. Every summer the graduating seniors risk their lives competing in a series of challenges that force them to confront their deepest fears for the chance to win life-changing money. Anyone can play. Only one will win. Let the games begin.

Creator Lauren Oliver (based on the novel by)

Olivia Scott Welch, Mike Faist, Jessica Sula

Production companies Adam Schroeder Entertainment, Amazon Studios, Glasstown Entertainment



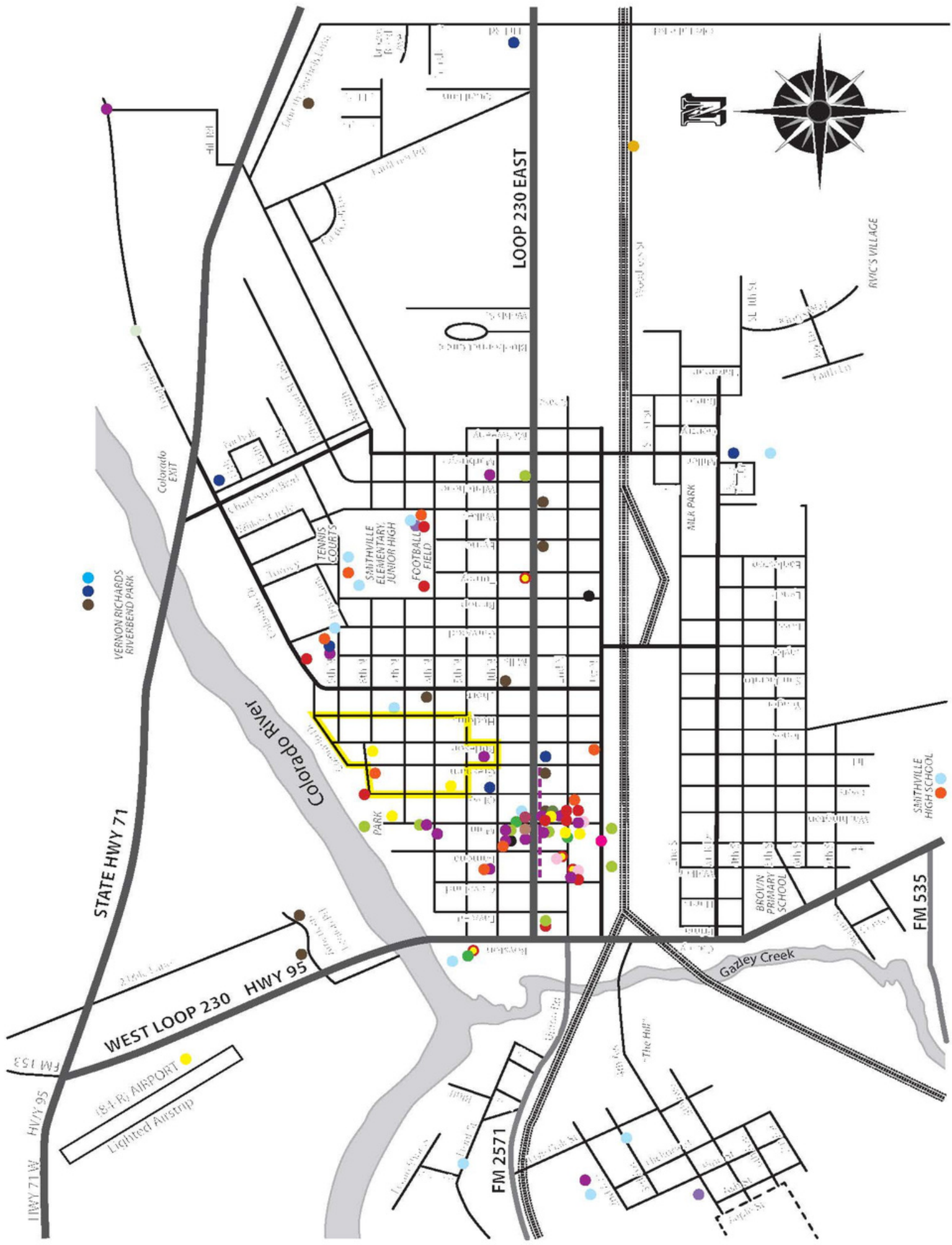
"Love and Death" crime, drama, mystery, thriller, TV mini-series 2022

Two church going couples, enjoying small town family life in Texas, until somebody picks up an axe. Candy Montgomery and Betty Gore had a lot in common: They sang together in the Methodist church choir; their daughters were best friends, and their husbands had good jobs working for technology companies in the north Dallas suburbs known as Silicon Prairie. But beneath the placid surface of their seemingly perfect lives, both women simmered with unspoken frustrations and unanswered desires.

Elizabeth Olsen, Fabiola Andujar, Amelle Dallimore

Production companies Blossom Films, David E. Kelley Productions, Lionsgate Television

Nominated for 3 Academy Awards 2012.



Filming Locations

Hope Floats ●

8th at the end of Olive, Ramona's home, INT/EXT
Football stadium "Barry Field", N 6th & Byrne, EXT
N 6th & Turney, Bernice's elementary school, Old Red Brick Building, EXT/INT

E 2nd, Temptation Nation Employment Office, EXT/INT
Garwood, Tranquility House Nursing Home, Towers Nursing Home, EXT
(Interior scenes filmed in old hospital building.)

Main, Snappy Snaps Foto Store, EXT/INT
E 2nd, Honey's Diner, EXT

W 2nd & Cleveland, Huebel's Bar, EXT/INT

Brace and Justin stroll down Main between 2nd & Loop 230

Main, Justin waits, leaning against truck to take Brice away, EXT

Festival of Lights parade, Main, between 1st & 2nd (filmed 8pm to 3am)
Fawcett, movie signage inside Pocket's Grille

The Tree of Life ●

Burleson, childhood home, EXT/INT

Olive, scenes with the baby, EXT/INT

Gresham, classroom, outdoor childhood fight, EXT/INT

Main, 2nd block, Mom and boys come out of building and walk across the street, EXT

Main, Dad walked and got into car in front of building, EXT

Main, Mama and boys walk out of building and down street, INT

Garwood, boy's bedroom, INT

Main, boy steals slip from a woman he had a crush on, INT/EXT

Smithville Municipal Airport, Brad Pitt Airport Scene

Childhood neighborhood outlined in yellow

Beneath the Darkness ●

Ramona, Bly's house, EXT/INT

Hwy 95 S, Smithville High School, EXT/INT

NE 6th, football stadium, EXT

NW 4th, police department, EXT/INT

NE 9th, hospital scene, INT

Gresham, Abby's house, EXT and Travis' house, INT

Main, 1st-3rd blocks, boy gets chased through parade trying to escape police

Smithville Jr. High Cafeteria, 8th at Bishop, Smithville Hospital ER in film, EXT

NE 1st, Travis' house, EXT

E 2nd, How's Automotive, EXT/INT

Five Time Champion ●

Garwood, Shiley's house, EXT/INT

Hudgins, Danielle's house, EXT

Smithville Elementary Gym, 8th at Bishop, Science Fair, INT

Smithville High School, Hwy 95 S, Mr. Collins' office, science classroom, INT

Main, taxidermy shop, EXT/INT

Royston, Brookshire Brothers, grocery store, EXT/INT

3rd, Danielle's house, INT

SSD nurse's office, elementary campus, 8th at Bishop, INT

SSD Football Field, Hwy 95 S, track scene, EXT

Old Upton Rd, Uncle's House

2nd Ave, John Gries' teacher's House

Miller St, Grandparents' House, Betty Buckley and Don Peifer, etc.

Natural Selection ●

NE Loop 230, CAPIS, bus stop, EXT/INT

Hill Rd, Shella and Peter's house, INT

Riverbend Park RV area, rest stop, EXT

Hwy 71 W, country diner and small town diner, EXT/INT (La Cabana, 1 mile west of town)

NE 9th, medical clinic, EXT/INT

Olive, church, EXT/INT

Charleston, Abe and Linda's house, EXT/INT

Miller St, Matt O'Leary's House

Doonby ●

Main, Jessica's Boutique, INT

Gresham, orphanage

NE 9th, medical clinic/retirement home/Reaper clinic, EXT/INT

Main, Jessica's house, EXT; Reaper house, INT

NW 2nd, Leroy's Bar, INT

Main, Leroy's Bar, EXT

In alley behind 115 Main, Leroy's car park, EXT

Main, Leroy's Bar, EXT/Front

Ramona, Reaper house, EXT

NW Loop 230, Lee's Store, EXT

Hwy 71 W, Lee's Store, INT; gas station, EXT (La Cabana, 1 mile west of town)

Whitehead, Leroy's store room, behind main house (old, red barn), EXT/INT

NW 4th St police department, EXT/INT

Main, library, EXT/INT

Main, city hall, EXT/INT

Main, Jack O'Diamonds Hotel, INT and Lucy Mae's apartment, EXT

Main, coffee shop, EXT/INT

2nd Ave, Jacuzzi Scene with J Schneider and Jenn Gotsew

Loop Rd, Schneider boards bus

Stunt scenes, Loop 230 between Olive and Cleveland

Under the Western Sun ●

1st St & Main, Gazebo, wedding, shootout, parade

Loop 230 & Whitehead, 1st Academy, TV station, INT

Main, Western Sun newspaper office, INT/EXT

Park on north end of Main, parade, EXT

Main, city hall, mayor's office, INT

Fawcett, election tabulation, INT

Martha ●

NW 1st St, INT

Art of the Goat (sites not shown)

Filmed mainly outside of city limits in Buescher State Park, FM 153

Bernie ●

Royston, Zimmerhantzel's BBQ, Bernie & friends eat lunch, INT

Main, First National Bank, EXT

Main, First State Bank, Ms Nugent denies loan application, INT

Cell: the Webseries ●

Main, INT

Shady, TX ●

Main St, 1st - 2nd block, driving scene where young policewoman is talking with retired marshal

Bishop, murder scene, EXT/INT

NW 4th St, police department, EXT/INT

A Country Called Home ●

Gresham American Legion Hall

American Legion Road, EXT/INT

American Legion Rd, INT

Riverbend Park, Hwy 71 W, baseball field

Short, EXT/INT

Main, EXT/INT

E Hwy 71, driving scenes, EXT

Hwy 71 W, gas station, parking lot EXT (west of town)

Panic ●

See Main Street Set

Love and Death ●

See Main Street Set

Loop 230, EXT/INT

Short, EXT/INT

Loop 230, INT

My All American ●

Barry Field, football stadium

Kelberg Park

Lost in the Sun ●

NW 2nd St, INT

Main, INT

Main, actor jumps through window during bank robbery, EXT/INT

Ramona, EXT/INT

Music Video: "Just Breathe" ●

Ramona, INT

NW 2nd St, EXT/INT

Royston, INT

Loop 230 at Turney, food court

Million Dollars But... ●

Riverbend Park

Fast & Furious Meets Uber ●

Woodless St

Music Video: "Vice" ●

Colorado St, Accident Scene

Other Productions

"Martha" 2008

"Fireflies in the Garden" 2008

"Deadland Dreaming" 2008

"The Dentists 2" 1998

"Breakdance Kid" 2004

"Blackout" 2011

"Dad Labs" 2011

"The Association" 2011

"Shadow 44" webseries 2010

"The Moment" 2010

"Dared" 2010

"Exists" 2012

"Invicta" 2009

"Extreme Makeover" 2011

"Somebody Up There Likes Me" 2011

"South of Memphis" 2011

"Varsity Blood" 2012

"Enemy of the Mind" 2012

"Finding Acadia" 2012

"Kill or be Killed" 2012

"Falling Off Horses" 2012

"Zero Charisma" 2012

"Rutter" 2012

"Weird Girls" 2012

"To Place in All Races" 2013

"Boston Nightly-Long Term Parking" 2013

"My All American" 2014

"The Focus Puller" 2014

"Lost in the Sun" 2014

"6th Street Blues" 2014

"Shilo" 2014

"Conway Curve" 2015

"Fight" 2015

"Take 2 for Faith" 2016

"Last" 2016

"The Man from Carolina" 2016

"The Night Mares" 2017

"The Moment" 2017

"Zombie March Madness" 2017

"Carnivores Treatment" 2017

"The Gospel of Kevin" 2017

"Panic" 2020

"Bellwood" 2020

"His Stretch of Texas Ground" 2020

"ABC News - Rodney Reed" 2020

"Walker - Texas Ranger" 2020

Commercials

Vetrol 2010

Dairy Queen 2012

Dream Your Home 2

Russell Athletics 2011

RAM Trucks 2011

Harley Davidson 2015

Responsible Pet Care PSA 2016

Music Videos

"Paper Ghost" 2012 Courier

"Just Breathe" 2013 Willie

Nelson, Lucas Nelson

"Last Night in Texas" 2014 Mikal

knight

SOURCES

The information contained in this guide was compiled directly from the following official sources:

- City of Smithville Film Committee webpage
- Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce Film Liaison webpage
- Texas Film Commission resources
- City of Smithville Economic Development resources
- Smithville film and tourism resources

This guide is intended as an informational resource for filmmakers considering production activities in Smithville, Texas.

