



# Smithville Texas



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## Regional Information

Located 42 miles southeast of Austin, Smithville is situated high on the banks of the beautiful Colorado River, 12 miles from Bastrop, 117 miles from San Antonio, and 118 miles from Houston.

## Education

As a Texas public school, Smithville I.S.D. is rated by the Texas Education Agency each year based upon a set of academic excellence indicators. Smithville went from having four campuses that were "Academically Acceptable" to four campuses that are "Recognized". This places Smithville ISD firmly as a "Recognized" school district for the 2010-2011 school year. Smithville I.S.D. has over a century of excellence in education. The home of the Tigers, we are proud of our past, determined in the present, and hopeful in the future. It is through hard work and determination that we can excel in both academics and extra-curricular endeavors.

The mission of Smithville High School is to provide a quality education that ensures all students learn to think independently and promote academic excellence. We are dedicated to serve our students and encourage them to meet rigorous academic challenges with enthusiasm and willingness to solve problems, ultimately to become productive citizens in society.

## Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Department of Smithville provides leisure opportunities for all citizens of Smithville and surrounding communities. They are committed to establishing a safe, fun, and relaxing environment for the public. Activities and programs within the department will promote community involvement, a learning atmosphere and encourage all citizens to be active and to pursue a higher quality of life.

The City of Smithville Indoor Recreation Center is a city-owned 22,500 square foot multi-purpose facility. The building features a large gym with basketball courts for Little Dribblers basketball games and Little Bumpers volleyball. A room with public access computers, a weight room, two dance studios and a racquetball court round out the activities. Jazzercise, Powerflex, Tae Kwon Do, dance and yoga are also taught.

The Smithville area is also host to four parks that are owned and maintained by the Smithville Parks and Recreation Department. The parks are all kept clean and well-maintained, and each park offers features that will provide a fun or relaxing time for the entire community. In addition, the Colorado River cuts across Smithville proper and can be used for river fun. Boating, rafting and canoeing are popular pastimes, and swimming and fishing are allowed. A public fishing pier is located on the east side of Riverbend Park.

Smithville is in the middle of six golf courses within 25 miles – three 18 hole courses and 3 nine hole courses. Bastrop State Park has an 18-hole golf course which is very popular, especially among the senior group who hold regular tournaments. Pine Forest Golf Club is an 18-hole course lying along the Colorado River in Tahitian Village. Several tees are overlooked by the cliffs of the Colorado. Wolfdancer Golf Club, an 18 hole course about 25 miles west of Smithville, is owned and operated by the Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort. There is also a 13-acre driving range. The nine hole golf courses are at Frish Auf Country Club in LaGrange to the east, Giddings Country Club in Giddings to the north and the Flatonia Golf Course in Flatonia to the south.

## Quality of Life

Smithville has always been a community-minded town with great shopping, lodging, dining and pure fun. With its friendly residents, a true community bond and an emphasis on slowing down in today's hectic and fast-paced world, living in Smithville is, in many respects, like stepping back in time. But Smithville is also a modern community, where modern conveniences combine with Smithville's natural beauty to create a wonderful place to live, work and play.

## Business Overview

Smithville has been called the "Heart of the Megalopolis" between Austin, San Antonio, Houston & Bryan/College Station. Smithville is growth-oriented and is actively encouraging the expansion of existing businesses and promotion of tourism to enhance its economy. The Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce, representing over 250 businesses and organizations, and the City of Smithville are cooperating to facilitate expansion of the local economy. Smithville is continuing to trend toward gradual but steady population growth.

Smithville was the first city in Texas to receive the "Film Friendly City" designation from the Texas Film Commission. Recently, a number of films have had part or all of their scenes shot in Smithville, including Hope Floats, Tree of Life, Artois the Goat, Five Time Champion, Martha, and Shady Texas.