



GREEN PRODUCTION GUIDE

A PROJECT OF THE PRODUCERS GUILD OF AMERICA

LOCATIONS

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LOCATIONS

Scouting & Prep

While on location, take every measure to manage your waste, conserve water, protect the landscape and respect the local community. During the scout, evaluate each location with an eye toward sustainability options. Remember that cities have different policies regarding recycling and waste removal. Check with local municipalities for details.

Be sure to involve the prep crew and swing gang in greening efforts, especially in terms of water and waste removal. Off-set crew are often charged with the task of regulating their own green behavior and benefit from a supportive Locations department.

Refer to the Locations section of the **PEACH document** for a complete list of scouting and general best practices. Below, is more information about location waste management and shooting in sensitive locations.

Waste Management

Waste management is an important part of the sustainable production process. Here are some guidelines and tips to follow for effectively and sustainably managing waste while on location. *Please refer to the [GPG PEACH](#) to track sustainable production practices.*

- Contract a waste hauler who will provide recycling services for construction materials, catering, compost, crew waste, and any other materials generated on location. Look for recommended waste haulers on our Green Vendors page here at [GreenProductionGuide.com](#)
- Ensure that sufficient waste and recycling bins are placed frequently and conveniently, specifically in the:
 - Staging area close to camera
 - Craft service tables
 - Base camp
- Provide catering and crafts services with compost and recycle bins (or ask them to bring their own) for the materials they generate.
- Monitor bin use and adjust as necessary for best use.
- Follow local waste management regulations. Typically, recycling stations can be separated by:
 - Paper
 - Cans, bottles, plastic and foil
 - Landfill
 - Compost
- Create easy to read signage that details proper practices for composting and recycling. ([Or download a flyer from GPG.](#))





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Sensitive Landscapes

In addition to following the Locations best sustainable practices found in the GPG PEACH document, below is a list of general guidelines to follow for when filming in sensitive locations. Prior to working in a sensitive location, it is wise to conduct an audit of the location. This will allow you to establish pre-filming conditions and carefully document any types of (particularly sensitive) vegetation or wildlife present as well as identify any active nesting or wildlife habitat areas.

If you identify additional guidelines or practices during your scouting, please incorporate them into the GPG PEACH checklist/comments section.

What is a sensitive location?

A sensitive location is any area that is designated as a park, conservation, wildlife reserve, UNESCO World Heritage Site, Indigenous and/or culturally significant lands, contains particularly sensitive or endangered plant/animal species, or other designated environmentally sensitive and significant areas.

General Guidelines

- Identify any areas that are sensitive, and suggest appropriate methods to avoid, mitigate or remedy the adverse environmental effects of filming activity in these areas.
- Cordon off areas where there is particularly sensitive vegetation or native wildlife so that vehicles, crew and other production related activities have minimal impact.
- Create and use areas designated for equipment storage, set piece laydown, and stockpiling of materials. Do not use any areas outside of the set/work zone perimeter for any of the actions.
- Contain and remove all water from toilets and showers used on the locations. Do not allow any discharges of water onto the land.
- Use trash, recycling and composting bins with lids or other closures designed to prevent access by wildlife and place them in easily accessible locations.
- Perform daily set/work zone “housekeeping” to prevent trash and debris from leaving the site and becoming windblown hazards.
- Reinstate any land or vegetation that has been damaged or affected because of production activities.
- Shield all lighting downwards and prevent any lights used at night from shining on active bird nests or any other sensitive habitat.
- Limit continuous or sustained noise near sensitive habitat and wildlife locations, such as active bird nests.
- Construction and filming areas should be limited to existing access roads, pathways, driveways, or trails.





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Altering Landscapes or Vegetation

- Do not remove, replace or trim existing vegetation without express authorization from the appropriate oversight or environmental agency.
- Do not alter the existing site topography without the express authorization of the appropriate oversight or environmental agency.
- Do not disturb existing flora or fauna and only use non-invasive species when bringing in outside plants.
- All vegetative and nursery stock brought to the site should be certified free of pathogens and pests.

Vehicles, Generators & Fuel Use

- Manage all vehicle use, crew foot traffic and all other film related activities causing impact to ground cover and vegetation to ensure minimal damage to sensitive ground cover and terrain.
- All crew vehicles must keep to the established vehicle access tracks and base camp areas on the site. Care should be taken to avoid wheel ruts on wet ground.
- Place spill containment (oil drip trays and/or groundsheets) under all vehicles (including historic vehicles, prop vehicles and construction vehicles) and all generators on site.
- Have spill kits available in easily accessed locations on site for immediate spill cleanup.
- Create designated site(s) for all fueling. These sites should be in contained or banded areas and not within proximity of any waterway (i.e., river, stream, lake, or ocean).
- Refuel and perform routine maintenance of construction equipment and utility vehicles within the designated refueling stations.
- If a fuel spill occurs, the location manager must be notified immediately. Arrangements shall be made to clean up any spill in an appropriate manner.
- Store all flammable liquids and fuels in approved containers and storage areas. Store where any leakage or spill will be safely contained; follow local and federal regulations regarding proper hazardous, regulated and/or universal waste management.
- Use helicopters instead of cars or trucks if a location has sensitive or pristine landscapes that will be damaged by vehicles.
 - Suitable landing sites close to filming areas should be located. Aircraft engine and rotor noise should be minimized by careful landing and departure procedures, with wind-down and start-up noise to be minimized as much as possible.
 - Helicopters should land on solid ground and in areas that are identified as having the least sensitive vegetation or wildlife present.
 - Only essential crew and camera equipment should be flown into more sensitive locations.

