FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Braidwood area

Braidwood

Illinois

Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Central Time · Largemouth

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

7/10

Fair odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Mostly stable	+ No lightning	− Up to 15 mph · open-water chop	+ Clear / sunny (~0%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **51–58°F**, lows **41–50°F**, rain chance up to **~0%**. Story is wind — pick banks the breeze is hitting and keep crossings short.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

51° F high

LOW	41°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SSW 5–10 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	—

Frame: Stable day — first-light moving bait, then slow down around shade and cover once the sun is up.

TUESDAY NOV 17

53° F high

LOW	44°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SSW 10–15 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	—

Frame: Breeziest day — use ripple on wind-blown banks and points; open-water chop is higher risk.

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

58° F high

LOW	50°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	S 10–15 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	—

Frame: Breeziest day — use ripple on wind-blown banks and points; open-water chop is higher risk.

Window: Mon–Wed · Air: SSW → S · Bite window: dawn + last light

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (first light CST) → ~9 AM**
- Use any ripple as cover

MIDDAY

- Shade lines, docks, deeper edges
- Electronics for bait height first
- Slow down once the sun is overhead

EVENING

- Revisit shallow shade as sun drops
- Topwater if the surface lays down
- Weekday traffic is lighter — work quiet pockets

FALL TRANSITION **Largemouth plan: Follow shad into the backs of creeks and flats 1-10 ft; spinnerbait, squarebill and topwater at a fast pace.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

Largemouth are in the fall transition — following bait into creeks and onto flats as water cools.

Basis: estimated water ~57°F — statewide median of 25 lake estimates from the observed air record (NOAA ACIS) — no coordinates on file for this lake; no water-temperature gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

NATURAL FORAGE

Glassy midday water pushes fish tight to shade and cover around Will County. By, expect fish at Braidwood Lake to settle into predictable shade lines you can re-hit without a long run.

ALSO BITING

Crappie can show on a slow midday drop along the first break near Braidwood Lake public boat ramp (Will County). Bluegill mix on the same shade lines you fish for bass — keep a light jig ready as a bonus cast.

PRESSURE

Weekday traffic — lighter than the weekend. Fish early, give ramps and swim areas room.

WATER BOARD — LAKE CHEAT SHEET

FIXED Natural / small-impoundment water — no generation table. Check access rules and level notes with the managing agency before you go.

ITEM	NOTE	SOURCE
Permit / regs	Confirm park hours, trailer parking, and any day-use notices posted at the gate before you leave a vehicle overnight at Braidwood Lake.	
Clarity	Water clarity / depth.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Bank fishing starts at Braidwood Lake public boat ramp (Will County), where you can reach riprap, weed edges, and the first break off the public ramp within a short walk of the truck. Work a soft stickbait or weightless fluke along shade lines, then pitch a compact jig into the nearest cover.

KAYAK

Kayak anglers should launch at Braidwood Lake public boat ramp (Will County) and hug the protected shoreline rather than crossing open water when a breeze is up.

BOAT

Trailers use Braidwood Lake public boat ramp (Will County) — launch, clear the lane, and idle out before you plane. At first light, run points, edges, and secondary drops with a squarebill or spinnerbait, then slow down with a Texas-rigged beaver when the sun climbs.

LURE BOX

TOP

Lipless crankbait.

MID

Wacky-rig stickbait. Football jig. Carolina-rig trail.

BOTTOM

Finesse worm. Stain/clear: On stained water at Braidwood Lake, lean chartreuse and black/blue; on clearer afternoons, natural green pumpkin and translucent stickbaits get more looks. Match lure size to the forage you see along Braidwood Lake public boat ramp (Will County).