Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Carlyle Lake area

Carlyle Lake

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

8/10 — Strong odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Mostly stable	+ No lightning	+ 2–12 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~0%)	~ Fall transition · turnover	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **57–62°F**, lows **32–42°F**, rain chance up to **~0%**. Story is light and bait position — dawn and last light carry the window.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

57° F high

LOW	32°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	E 2 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:40 AM / 4:43 PM

Frame: Cold start — let the sun warm the shallows; the better bite often comes later in the day.

TUESDAY NOV 17

60° F high

LOW	36°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SE 2–6 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:41 AM / 4:42 PM

Frame: Cold start — let the sun warm the shallows; the better bite often comes later in the day.

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

62° F high

LOW	42°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	S 2–12 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:42 AM / 4:42 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:40 AM 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. Possible turnover window on stratified reservoirs — the bite can go off for a few days.

Basis: estimated water ~58°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response); no water-temperature

NATURAL FORAGE

Shad are bunching up, white bass are following them across the main lake, and crappie are moving onto brush and stumps along the channel. What's on the menu: Gizzard and threadfin shad are the main forage, with crawfish on the riprap and small bluegill around

ALSO BITING

White bass — co-primary; surface schools and channel edges. Crappie — co-primary; brush and stumps 8–16 ft.

PRESSURE

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

gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

DAM & WATER — GENERATION SCHEDULE

FIXED Dam-controlled water. No generation schedule posted by USACE MVS for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 — check the operator page the morning you fish; releases and pool levels change daily. Stay outside buoyed restricted zones.

ITEM	NOTE	SOURCE
Carlyle Pool	No generation schedule posted by USACE MVS for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 444.26 ft (Mon 4:00 AM CT); observed outflow (USACE) 70 cfs (Sun 12:00 AM CT)	USACE MVS
Confirm	Illinois DNR fishing	dnr.illinois.gov
Permit / regs	Regulations: check current Illinois DNR fishing rules before keeping fish, since site rules on Carlyle can differ from statewide limits.	
Clarity	Water clarity / depth.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

The easiest bank access on Carlyle is at Dam West Recreation Area and along the riprap near the dam, where you can reach rock and deeper water from shore. On the west side, Eldon Hazlet State Park has shoreline and points you can walk to, and South Shore State Park near the dam offers more bank room.

KAYAK

Is the paddle day. Launch at Coles Creek, Boulder or the ramps inside Eldon Hazlet State Park, and stay along the shoreline points and protected coves. Carlyle is huge and wide open, so do not cross the main lake in a kayak even on a calm day; wind can come up fast and the swells build over miles of open water.

BOAT

Carlyle fishes like a big, shallow, open lake with a defined river channel through the middle. At first light, run the main-lake flats and points near the dam and the state parks and watch for white bass schools pushing shad to the surface; a spoon, an in-line spinner or a small swimbait will catch them fast.

LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait or popper over surface schools. Buzzbait on riprap at dawn. Prop bait on the calm water.

MID

Small spoon or in-line spinner for white bass. Swimbait on a light jighead. Squarebill on riprap and wood.

BOTTOM

Slab spoon jigged on the channel edge. Jig and minnow for crappie on brush. Shaky head or jig on riprap for largemouth.