FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Dale Hollow Lake area

Dale Hollow Lake

Kentucky
Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Central Time · Smallmouth

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

Strong odds

9/10

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Mostly stable	+ No lightning	+ 0–5 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~0%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **59–68°F**, lows **30–35°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

59° F high

LOW	30°F
SKY	Widespread Frost then Sunny
WIND	NE 0–5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:20 AM / 4:32 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

64° F high

LOW	32°F
SKY	Widespread Frost then Sunny
WIND	0 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:21 AM / 4:31 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

68° F high

LOW	35°F
SKY	Widespread Frost then Sunny
WIND	0 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:22 AM / 4:31 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:20 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 **Smallmouth plan: Cover rock flats and points 5-20 ft as fish feed up; jerkbait, swimbait and blade bait at a moderate-to-fast pace.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

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

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

NATURAL FORAGE

Dated forage reports for this exact window are thin. Most-likely forage is threadfin shad and alewife in open water, with crawfish on rocky banks — a key smallmouth food on both lakes.

ALSO BITING

Walleye · trout. Center Hill walleye on deep points at low light; Dale Hollow trout hold deep in cool water — soft language only.

PRESSURE

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

DAM & WATER — GENERATION SCHEDULE

FIXED Dam-controlled water. Generation schedule and flows below are copied from the operator as posted at the Cast pull — schedules change; re-check the operator page the morning you fish. Stay outside buoyed restricted zones.

ITEM	NOTE	SOURCE
Dale Hollow Dam	Mon 11/16: 5 AM - 7 AM CT 15 MW, 4 PM - 9 PM CT 15 MW · Tue 11/17: 4 AM - 9 AM CT 15 MW, 6 PM - 8 PM CT 15 MW · Wed 11/18: 105 MWh scheduled (daily total) — USACE Nashville District hydropower schedule	USACE Nashville District
Confirm	Kentucky Fish and Wildlife fishing page	fw.ky.gov
Permit / regs	If you fish across the state line, carry the license that covers the water you are .	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Kentucky-side bank access on Dale Hollow is limited, so plan ahead. Dale Hollow Lake State Resort Park near Burkesville has shoreline near the marina and day-use areas where posted open, and it is the best walk-in spot on the Kentucky end.

KAYAK

Light winds make the Kentucky coves easy to paddle this week. Launch from the state resort park ramp and work the nearest coves: rocky points, bluff ends, and laydowns. Carry a drop-shot for fish you mark off the points.

BOAT

Launch at Dale Hollow State Park Marina or Wolf River Dock on the Kentucky end. Once the sun is up, slide out to 20 to 30 feet on the same points and fish a drop-shot, a tube, or a hair jig. Keep the boat in deep water and make long casts; this lake's smallmouth see everything.

LURE BOX

TOP

Small walking bait and popper (bone / clear) at first light; wakebait on calm evenings.

MID

Jerkbait (ghost shad) and small swimbait on windblown points; spybait and hair jig on calm, clear points.

BOTTOM

Drop-shot and ned rig (green pumpkin / smoke); tube (watermelon / brown) on chunk rock; football jig (brown) on deeper bluff ends and channel swings. Stain / clear match: Expect very clear water on Dale Hollow and clear-to-light green on Center Hill. Natural colors and light fluorocarbon throughout.