FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Lake Cumberland

Kentucky

Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · EST · Smallmouth · Spotted

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Lake Cumberland area

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

9/10 — Strong odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Mostly stable	+ No lightning	+ 2–5 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~0%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **58–66°F**, lows **26–35°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

58° F high

LOW	26°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	NE 0–5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:18 AM / 5:29 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

62° F high

LOW	31°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	E 2 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:19 AM / 5:28 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

66° F high

LOW	35°F
SKY	Patchy Fog then Sunny
WIND	ESE 2 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:20 AM / 5:28 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:18 AM EST) → ~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 ~57°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response), adjusted by 1 nearby USGS lake gauge; no water-temperature gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

NATURAL FORAGE

Shad are the main fall forage on Cumberland, so match a shad profile first. Crayfish stay important on the rocky banks, which is why a green pumpkin tube or Ned rig earns its spot.

ALSO BITING

Striped bass. Fall stripers start pushing shad toward creek mouths as the water cools.

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
Wolf Creek Dam	Mon 11/16: 4 AM - 7 AM CT 90 MW, 2 PM - 3 PM CT 45 MW, 3 PM - 6 PM CT 135 MW, 6 PM - 8 PM CT 90 MW, 8 PM - 9 PM CT 45 MW · Tue 11/17: 3 AM - 4 AM CT 45 MW, 4 AM - 5 AM CT 90 MW, 5 AM - 9 AM CT 135 MW, 9 AM - 10 AM CT 90 MW, 10 AM - 11 AM CT 45 MW, 6 PM - 9 PM CT 45 MW · Wed 11/18: 920 MWh scheduled (daily total) — USACE Nashville District hydropower schedule	USACE Nashville District
Confirm	Kentucky Fish and Wildlife fishing page	fw.ky.gov
Permit / regs	Current regulations are on the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife fishing page.	
Clarity	Warmest afternoon; strong evening topwater window on points Calm, bright, clear water: lengthen casts and drop to lighter line before you change colors.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Fishing Creek Recreation Area and Waitsboro Recreation Area near Somerset put you on public rocky points and riprap, and Burnside Island State Park adds shoreline at the upper end. Near Jamestown, Lake Cumberland State Resort Park has bank access where posted open.

KAYAK

Launch at Lily Creek Ramp or Beaver Creek Church Ramp and work the Beaver Creek arm: channel swings, laydowns on the steep bank, and the bluff ends where the creek meets the first big point. Fishing Creek Recreation Area opens the Fishing Creek arm with similar cover. Carry a drop-shot for fish you mark off the points.

BOAT

Launch at Conley Bottom Resort, Lee's Ford Dock, Burnside Marina, Wolf Creek Marina, or Jamestown Marina. From first light to about 10 AM, run main-lake and secondary points at creek mouths with a walking bait or a fluke wherever shad dimple the surface; schooling spots will show you the good points.

LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait (bone or clear shad) over points at first light and dusk. Small popper or prop bait when fish bust shad near the surface. Pearl fluke twitched just under the surface over schooling fish.

MID

Suspending jerkbait (ghost shad) on clear points before the sun is high. Small paddle-tail swimbait on a light head, counted down to suspended fish. Underspin around bait balls on channel swings.

BOTTOM

Drop-shot with a small finesse worm (morning dawn or shad tones) for marked fish. Ned rig or tube (green pumpkin) on chunk rock and shale banks. Shaky head or football jig on bluff ends and brush; jigging spoon under bait.