Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Onota Lake area

Onota Lake

Massachusetts
Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Eastern Time · Largemouth

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

Strong odds

8/10

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Mostly stable	+ No lightning	+ 7–8 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~1%)	~ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **44–53°F**, lows **29–33°F**, rain chance up to **~1%**. Story is light and bait position — dawn and last light carry the window.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

44° F high

LOW	29°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	NW 8 mph
RAIN	~1%
SUN	6:45 AM / 4:30 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

49° F high

LOW	33°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	W 2–7 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:46 AM / 4:29 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

53° F high

LOW	30°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	NW 3–7 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:47 AM / 4:28 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:45 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 **Largemouth plan: Slow down: steep points, channel drops and remaining grass just outside the creeks, between the fall flats and the 15-30 ft winter depth; suspending jerkbait with long pauses, jig-and-pig or blade bait crawled down the slope.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

Largemouth are in the late fall transition — water under the mid-50s, so bass are sliding off the shallow flats toward steeper points and channel drops near their fall feeding areas.

Basis: estimated water ~51°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response); no water-temperature

NATURAL FORAGE

What's on the menu: No local forage report was available for this Cast window. MassWildlife surveys list rainbow smelt, spottail and golden shiners, yellow and white perch, and sunfish in Onota, and in the fall bass here commonly feed on baitfish schools and p

ALSO BITING

Smallmouth bass · northern pike. Smallmouth live on Onota's rocky points and drop-offs and bite tubes and jerkbaits well in clear, cold water.

PRESSURE

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

gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

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
Clarity	With dry weather ahead, expect normal fall lake levels and very clear water.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Burbank Park, on the east shore off Valentine Road, is the place to fish Onota from shore. The city's fishing pier there reaches about 75 feet into the lake, and MassWildlife says you can cast into water as deep as 45 feet from the end, a rare chance for shore anglers to reach deep fall bass and trout.

KAYAK

Launch kayaks at the city boat ramp in Burbank Park off Valentine Road, which is free and open to all kinds of boats. The northwest wind is lighter but cold. The calm morning and light south wind are the best paddling window of the three.

BOAT

Boats launch at the City of Pittsfield's double concrete ramp in Burbank Park, roughly halfway up the east shore off Valentine Road, with a 75-car lot and room for nearly any trailered boat.

LURE BOX

TOP

A walking bait or a frog over the weed can still draw strikes afternoon. Skip topwater on the wind and the cold.

MID

Spinnerbaits, swim jigs, and suspending jerkbaits are the fall baits for weed edges and rocky points. A jerkbait with long pauses shines in clear, cold water.

BOTTOM

A jig, a Texas-rigged worm, or a drop shot on the deep weed edge is the cold-morning plan. Tubes and Ned rigs on rock target smallmouth. Very clear water: Onota stays clear, especially with low inflows this week.