Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Wachusett Reservoir area

Wachusett Reservoir

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

Strong odds

8/10

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
~ 12°F swing	+ No lightning	+ 6–7 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~1%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **48–60°F**, lows **28–37°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

48° F high

LOW	28°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	NW 3–7 mph
RAIN	~1%
SUN	6:38 AM / 4:24 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

53° F high

LOW	37°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	W 6 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:39 AM / 4:23 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

60° F high

LOW	37°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	W 7 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:40 AM / 4:22 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 (6:38 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: Go subsurface and a notch slower: edges of drop-offs, rocky points and bluff ends between the fall flats and the 20-40 ft winter depth; jerkbait with pauses, small jig or hula grub on the bottom, blade bait ripped off the bottom on points.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

Smallmouth are in the late fall transition — water in the low-to-mid 50s, so they are staging on drop-off edges, points and bends between their summer spots and the deep wintering holes.

Basis: estimated water ~52°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response), adjusted by 1 nearby

NATURAL FORAGE

What's on the menu: No local forage report was available for this Cast window. In the fall, Wachusett smallmouth commonly feed on small baitfish and crayfish along the rocks.

ALSO BITING

Lake trout · landlocked salmon. Wachusett is known for lake trout and landlocked salmon.

PRESSURE

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

USGS lake gauge; no water-temperature gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

DAM & WATER — GENERATION SCHEDULE

FIXED Dam-controlled water. No generation schedule posted by the operator 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
Wachusett Reservoir Dam	No generation schedule posted by the operator for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: observed flow at USGS 01095503 (Nashua River, Water Street Bridge, At Clinton, Ma) 2 cfs (Mon 4:00 AM CT)	the operator
Permit / regs	Before you launch: Wachusett's shoreline season is open now and runs into late fall, but the DCR fishing guide and the state regulations list different closing dates, so confirm the current date with DCR (508-792-7806) before you plan a late-season trip.	
Clarity	Clear water, long casts: With low tributary flows, Wachusett will stay very clear this week.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Wachusett is shore-only, and DCR allows fishing only from designated areas: Gates 6 to 17A along Route 70, Gates 17 to 23 along Route 140, Gates 25 to 35 along Routes 12 and 110, plus Thomas, Oakdale, and Stillwater Basins in West Boylston.

KAYAK

No kayaks, canoes, float tubes, or other boats are allowed on Wachusett Reservoir.

BOAT

Boating is prohibited on Wachusett, so there is no launch or ramp plan here. If you want to run a boat on deep, clear smallmouth water this week, Quabbin is a short drive west, with DCR launch areas at Gate 8 in Petersham and Gate 31 in New Salem until its season closes in mid-October; confirm the date with DCR.

LURE BOX

TOP

A walking bait or small popper can still work on the calm first hour over shallow rock. Skip topwater on windy and cold.

MID

A suspending jerkbait with long pauses is the classic cold, clear-water smallmouth bait here. A small swimbait cast into the wind is the other strong choice.

BOTTOM

Tubes, Ned rigs, and drop shots on rock and gravel are the steadiest baits after the cold nights. Fish slowly and stay in contact with the bottom. Clear water, long casts: With low tributary flows, Wachusett will stay very clear this week.