Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Otsego Lake area

Otsego Lake

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

Strong odds

9/10

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Stable pattern	+ No lightning	+ 10–10 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~1%)	~ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **49–55°F**, lows **37–43°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

49° F high

LOW	37°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	SW 0–10 mph
RAIN	~1%
SUN	7:37 AM / 5:09 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

54° F high

LOW	39°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SW 10 mph
RAIN	~1%
SUN	7:38 AM / 5:08 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

55° F high

LOW	43°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	SW 10 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:39 AM / 5:07 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:37 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

Afternoon, slide toward any sun-warmed pocket near the access and pitch a soft creature into shade under overhanging brush. The colder dawn is the softest paddle day of the window — ease around timber and legal dock shadows slowly.

ALSO BITING

Yellow perch & panfish. Cool nights pull perch and bluegill tighter to brush and the first drop.

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 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
OTSEGO LAKE NEAR GAYLORD, MI	No generation schedule posted by the operator for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 1,273.24 ft (Mon 4:00 AM CT)	the operator
Clarity	Natural greens and browns match stained shore water; flash gets the nod on the windblown bank when baitfish are pushed shallow.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Start at the Otsego Lake State Park public ramp and walk the nearest riprap, grass, or wood edge you can reach without crossing private docks. Afternoon, slide toward any sun-warmed pocket near the access and pitch a soft creature into shade under overhanging brush.

KAYAK

Launch from the public access at Otsego Lake and hug the protected shoreline as soon as you clear the ramp throat. The sun is fine for a short paddle, but keep the open middle for later if any breeze builds whitecaps.

BOAT

Trailering boats use the same public access: Otsego Lake State Park public ramp. Confirm any length or motor notes on the posting at the ramp before you drop. Idle along the windward bank and keep casts short to wood and rock; save long runs or when the breeze dies.

LURE BOX

TOP

No topwater slot on file for this water — stay mid / bottom.

MID

No mid-depth slot on file for this water.

BOTTOM

One on a bottom contact bait so you can switch without re-tying when the frost bite turns. Natural greens and browns match stained shore water.