Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Lake St. Clair area

Lake St. Clair

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

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	+ 8–10 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~1%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **52–57°F**, lows **33–42°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

52° F high

LOW	33°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	SSW 1–8 mph
RAIN	~1%
SUN	6:22 AM / 4:07 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	36°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SW 5–8 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:23 AM / 4:06 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

57° F high

LOW	42°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	SSW 5–10 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:25 AM / 4:06 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:22 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: 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 ~53°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 dated forage report turned up for this exact window. Gobies, perch, shiners, and crayfish are the usual fall foods on St.

ALSO BITING

Largemouth · yellow perch. Largemouth: thick grass, canals, and marina edges with Texas rigs and swim jigs, plus the stained Clinton River mouth.

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
Permit / regs	Clair Walleye Association 2026 perch series schedule · trail calendars checked (no bass event this window) · MI DNR regulations (confirm live).	
Clarity	Largemouth: thick grass, canals, and marina edges with Texas rigs and swim jigs, plus the stained Clinton River mouth.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Clair Metropark in Harrison Township, the public edges around Harley Ensign Memorial Boat Launch, and Brandenburg Park in Chesterfield give walk-in anglers grass lines and rock transitions within casting range. The northwest wind leaves these west-shore spots fairly calm, good for feeling a tube or Ned rig on bottom.

KAYAK

Launch only where hand launching is posted at Lake St. Clair Metropark or Brandenburg Park, and plan around the wind rather than the clock. Be off the water by dusk before the south-southwest wind builds.

BOAT

Use the calm to run and graph channel swings, mid-lake grass, and hard-bottom transitions for suspended fish. Fish the flats and rock the west-southwest wind is hitting with swimbaits and jerkbaits, then finish on deeper breaks. Expect a sporty ride home afternoon.

LURE BOX

TOP

A long shot under the bluebird sky, though a walking bait can still draw a strike in the calm lee. The warmer air gives topwater its best shot, on wind-touched flats in the morning.

MID

Jerkbaits, soft swimbaits, and spinnerbaits on wind-blown grass and rock. Pause the jerkbait longer; pick up the pace when the west-southwest breeze has bait moving.

BOTTOM

Tubes, Ned rigs, and drop-shot minnows are the workhorses on rock and the first grass break. Football jigs work on deeper channel lips once fish slide out. Near the Clinton River mouth, where higher flow is adding stain, switch to darker craw tones or a touch of chartreuse.