Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Arkabutla area

Arkabutla

Mississippi
Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Central Time · Crappie

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

8/10 — Strong odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Mostly stable	+ No lightning	+ 5–10 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~1%)	~ Fall transition · turnover	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **62–69°F**, lows **36–46°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

62° F high

LOW	36°F
SKY	Areas Of Frost then Sunny
WIND	NE 5–10 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:35 AM / 4:54 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

66° F high

LOW	40°F
SKY	Patchy Frost then Sunny
WIND	E 5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:36 AM / 4:54 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

69° F high

LOW	46°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SE 5–10 mph
RAIN	~1%
SUN	6:37 AM / 4:53 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:35 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 **Crappie plan: Fish 8-20 ft brush in creek arms as bait moves in; jig or minnow, moderate pace.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

Crappie are in the fall transition — following bait into creeks and onto flats as water cools. Possible turnover window on stratified reservoirs — the bite can go off for a few days.

Basis: estimated water ~61°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response); no water-temperature

NATURAL FORAGE

Threadfin and gizzard shad, small bream, and crawfish make up the menu. With less water, the bait is concentrated too, which is why minnows and small shad-colored jigs work so well.

ALSO BITING

Channel and blue catfish feed in the Coldwater River channel bends, especially in the evening. Cut shad or nightcrawlers on the bottom work well.

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 USACE MVK 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
Arkabutla Lake	No generation schedule posted by USACE MVK for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 212.31 ft (Mon 4:00 AM CT)	USACE MVK
Permit / regs	Heads-up: Below-dam areas are closed, including the North and South Outlet day-use areas, the tailrace fishing pier, and the roads near the toe of the dam.	
Clarity	Color match: River water can be stained.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Most parks away from the dam are open. The Dub Patton and South Abutment day-use areas and Bayou Point give you shoreline to walk, and the Corps encourages bank fishing during the drawdown. Hernando Point has a small fishing pond with a pier between the day-use area and the campground, an easy place for kids to catch bream.

KAYAK

Kayaks and canoes are one of the best ways to fish Arkabutla while it is low, and the Corps encourages paddling where it is feasible. Launch at Hwy 51 Landing and paddle the Coldwater River channel, where bends and wood hold crappie and catfish.

BOAT

Only small boats make sense this week, and Hwy 51 Landing is the only open ramp: a gravel launch into the Coldwater River above the dam. Run slowly and stay in the river channel; exposed stumps, mud flats, and willows sit everywhere outside it.

LURE BOX

TOP

Small walking bait or popper for bass on calm dawns. Popping bug for bream around the Hernando Point pond pier. Small buzzbait along river-channel wood early.

MID

1/16-ounce jig (white or chartreuse) worked along river-channel wood. Minnow under a slip cork set at the depth of the channel edge. Small spinner or inline spinner for crappie and bass in the river.

BOTTOM

Vertical-jigged tube dropped into the deepest brush and stumps. Cut shad or nightcrawlers on the bottom for catfish in the bends. Texas-rigged worm pitched to channel wood for bass.