Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Current River area

Current River

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

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	+ 2–5 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~0%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **60–64°F**, lows **28–38°F**, rain chance up to **~0%**. Story is light and bait position — dawn and last light carry the window.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

60° F high

LOW	28°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	ENE 2 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:43 AM / 4:53 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

61° F high

LOW	31°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SE 0–3 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:44 AM / 4:53 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

64° F high

LOW	38°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SSE 0–5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:45 AM / 4:52 PM

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

Window: Mon–Wed · Air: ENE → SE → SSE · Bite window: dawn + last light

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:43 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: Cover rock flats and points 5-20 ft as fish feed up; jerkbait, swimbait and blade bait at a moderate-to-fast pace.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

Smallmouth are in the fall transition — following bait into creeks and onto flats as water cools.

Basis: estimated water ~55°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a river (10-day response), adjusted by 1 nearby USGS lake gauge; no water-temperature gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

NATURAL FORAGE

On the upper river, trout feed on aquatic insects like caddis, mayflies and midges, plus sculpins and crawfish, which is why small nymphs, dries and jigs work.

ALSO BITING

Goggle-eye · panfish. Goggle-eye, also called rock bass, hold around boulders, root wads and undercut banks in the same pools as smallmouth.

PRESSURE

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

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	Montauk State Park has trout water you can walk to, with the catch-and-keep season running through October 31; a fishing permit plus a daily trout tag is required.	
Clarity	Fish pool heads, tails and boulder seams; approach quietly in clear water.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Wading anglers have more choices than anywhere else on this list. Montauk State Park has trout water you can walk to, with the catch-and-keep season running through October 31; a fishing permit plus a daily trout tag is required. Below the park, the gravel bars down to Cedargrove are the Blue Ribbon area.

KAYAK

This is canoe and kayak country, and calm, sunny days make it ideal. The Park Service estimates Van Buren to Big Spring at about two hours, Waymeyer to Van Buren at about three, and Two Rivers to Powder Mill at about three, longer if you stop to fish. Waymeyer is for private, non-motorized floaters.

BOAT

Jon boats and jet boats run the deeper middle and lower river. The Chilton Creek boat launch, north of Van Buren on Route M, is the motorized access on that reach, and Powder Mill, Van Buren and Big Spring also serve the lower river. Motor rules vary by section on the Riverways, so check the Park Service before you go.

LURE BOX

TOP

Small walking bait or popper on calm pool tails for smallmouth at dusk. Prop bait along shady bluff banks. Dry flies (small caddis or ant) for rising trout on the upper river.

MID

Tube or soft stick bait drifted through boulder seams for smallmouth. Small inline spinner or spoon for trout where tackle rules allow. Small crankbait (craw) along riffle edges and pool heads.

BOTTOM

Small jig (brown or green pumpkin) bounced along gravel and boulders. Nymphs or small jigs drifted deep for trout in the riffles. Ned rig in the slower parts of deep pools.