FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Smithville Lake area

Smithville Lake

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

6/10 — Fair odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
~ 12°F swing	+ No lightning	− Up to 17 mph · open-water chop	+ Clear / sunny (~14%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **56–61°F**, lows **38–50°F**, rain chance up to **~14%**. Story is wind — pick banks the breeze is hitting and keep crossings short.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

56° F high

LOW	38°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	S 3–8 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:02 AM / 5:02 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

58° F high

LOW	43°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	S 6–12 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:03 AM / 5:01 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

61° F high

LOW	50°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	S 12–17 mph
RAIN	~14%
SUN	7:05 AM / 5:01 PM

Frame: Breeziest day — use ripple on wind-blown banks and points; open-water chop is higher risk.

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:02 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 **Largemouth plan: Follow shad into the backs of creeks and flats 1-10 ft; spinnerbait, squarebill and topwater at a fast pace.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

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

Basis: estimated water ~58°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response); no water-temperature gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

NATURAL FORAGE

Shad and bluegill are the usual forage on Kansas City-area reservoirs in fall. Watch for surface activity at first light and for bait dimpling on points.

ALSO BITING

Brush and docks hold crappie; small jigs around cover in the cooler morning water Work the same shade and edges you would for largemouth bass, just scale down the bait and slow the retrieve.

PRESSURE

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

DAM & WATER — GENERATION SCHEDULE

FIXED Dam-controlled water. No generation schedule posted by USACE NWDM 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
Smithville Dam & Reservoir	No generation schedule posted by USACE NWDM for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 863.77 ft (Mon 3:00 AM CT); observed outflow (USACE) 8 cfs (Sun 6:00 AM CT)	USACE NWDM
Permit / regs	Keep a light spinning outfit ready for panfish when the bass bite slows, and confirm current Missouri fishing regulations before you keep fish.	
Clarity	No USGS lake-surface reading for Smithville Lake in this Cast window; wind and clarity set the day.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Productive at dawn and dusk when boat traffic is light.

KAYAK

Launch at a posted public trailer or carry-in access on Smithville Lake and paddle the lee shoreline and protected pockets at first light. A spinnerbait or chatterbait covers water early; slow down with a soft plastic as fish slide into shade by midday.

BOAT

Launch at a posted public boat access for Smithville Lake. Work main-lake points and any breeze-blown bank early with a spinnerbait or crankbait, then flip soft plastics into shade and cover as the day heats up. Idle between spots, keep speeds down near kayaks and bank anglers, and treat this as a compact reservoir or lake day.

LURE BOX

TOP

Spinnerbait or chatterbait on points at first light. Walking bait or popper on calm banks early. Squarebill crankbait bumping rock and wood.

MID

Texas-rig creature or stickbait flipped into shade and cover. Shakey head or ned rig on harder point edges. Jig and chunk pitched to docks or laydowns if present.

BOTTOM

Soft plastic stickbait weightless after the cool night. Drop-shot or light Texas-rig when fish suspend off points. Small jig for bank anglers at dusk.