FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Lake Norman area

Lake Norman

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

Strong odds

8/10

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Mostly stable	+ No lightning	+ 2–6 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~0%)	~ Fall transition · turnover	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **58–65°F**, lows **39–42°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

58° F high

LOW	39°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	NNE 0–6 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:59 AM / 5:16 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

62° F high

LOW	40°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	NE 2 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:00 AM / 5:16 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

65° F high

LOW	42°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	NE 3 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:01 AM / 5:15 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:59 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: 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. Possible turnover window on stratified reservoirs — the bite can go off for a few days.

Basis: estimated water ~59°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response); no water-temperature

NATURAL FORAGE

Spotted bass are the main catch, and as nights drop into the 50s they group up and follow shad onto points, humps, and creek mouths.

ALSO BITING

Striped bass follow the same shad schools on the main lake; watch for birds at dawn and try a spoon, soft swimbait, or live bait on the channel edges.

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 Duke Energy 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
Cowans Ford Dam	No generation schedule posted by Duke Energy for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 756.62 ft (Mon 11/16)	Duke Energy
Permit / regs	Lake Norman State Park near Troutman has the most public shoreline on the lake; walk the rocky points and coves near the day-use areas and confirm gate hours on the park page.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Lake Norman State Park near Troutman has the most public shoreline on the lake; walk the rocky points and coves near the day-use areas and confirm gate hours on the park page. Ramsey Creek Park and Jetton Park in Cornelius give south-end bank anglers riprap and shoreline paths close to deeper water.

KAYAK

Calm water all week makes this a strong paddling window. Blythe Landing in Huntersville and Ramsey Creek Park put you near south-end coves, while Mountain Creek Park on the Catawba County side opens up a long, protected creek arm.

BOAT

Launch from Pinnacle Access, Stumpy Creek Access near Mooresville, Beatties Ford Access on the lower west shore, or Blythe Landing, and check Duke ramp alerts first because some shallow ends run short at this pool.

LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait (bone or clear shad) for dawn schoolers. Small popper along dock shade and rock. Prop bait on flat points during the calm.

MID

3–4" swimbait on a light jighead or umbrella-style rig. Suspending jerkbait on clear main-lake points. Small spinnerbait (white) on windy banks.

BOTTOM

Dropshot with a small shad or finesse worm on brush. Shaky head (green pumpkin) on rock and dock ends. Match the hatch: small threadfin and herring profiles in pearl, translucent, and natural shad first; green pumpkin and brown for rock and crawfish looks.