Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Erie Western Basin / Bass Islands area

Erie Western Basin / Bass Islands

Ohio
Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Eastern Time · Smallmouth

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

10/10 — Strong odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Stable pattern	+ No lightning	+ 8–13 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~0%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **49–54°F**, lows **42–46°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

49° F high

LOW	42°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	W 8 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:21 AM / 5:10 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

51° F high

LOW	44°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SW 7–13 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:22 AM / 5:09 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

54° F high

LOW	46°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SW 10 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:23 AM / 5:08 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:21 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 **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 ~54°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response); no water-temperature

NATURAL FORAGE

Spawning is long over, so this is a forage window. What's on the menu: Round gobies on rock are the everyday meal, with emerald shiners and young-of-year shad moving along the reef edges.

ALSO BITING

Still active on deeper basin edges and after dark; a secondary target behind smallmouth this window. Yellow perch.

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 — CONFIRM BEFORE YOU LAUNCH

FIXED Dam-controlled water. No shared generation/level feed this cycle — check the agency page the morning you fish; releases and pool levels change daily. Stay outside buoyed restricted zones.

ITEM	NOTE	SOURCE
Clarity	Wind direction matters more than any release on the open basin: a NW wind pushes cleaner water toward the Ohio shore, while a sustained SW breeze can stir the shallow western end.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Fish the public rock and breakwall at East Harbor State Park, the shoreline at Catawba Island State Park, and the public shoreline parks around Marblehead and Lakeside at first light. A 3-inch tube or Ned rig crawled parallel to riprap covers the first break where smallmouth feed early.

KAYAK

Wear a PFD, carry a whistle and light, and watch ferry wakes near Catawba.

BOAT

Launch from Catawba Island State Park, East Harbor State Park, or a public Port Clinton ramp. Work the lee sides of Kelleys Island and South Bass and the Catawba and Marblehead shoreline instead of the open NW-facing reefs.

LURE BOX

TOP

No topwater slot on file for this water — stay mid / bottom.

MID

Jerkbait or 3-inch swimbait.

BOTTOM

Tube or Ned rig. Green pumpkin or smoke crawled along rock. Drop-shot.