FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for East Branch Lake area

East Branch Lake

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

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	+ 5–6 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~0%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **45–55°F**, lows **25–27°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

45° F high

LOW	27°F
SKY	Mostly Cloudy
WIND	NW 6 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:04 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

50° F high

LOW	25°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	W 2–6 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:05 AM / 4:52 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

55° F high

LOW	27°F
SKY	Patchy Fog then Sunny
WIND	SW 1–5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:06 AM / 4:51 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:04 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 ~51°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response); no water-temperature

NATURAL FORAGE

What's on the menu: We do not have a dated forage report for this window. Most likely, small baitfish and young sunfish and perch are the main meal along the weed edges and points, with crayfish on rocky banks and around wood.

ALSO BITING

Walleye hold on points and drops. Try a jig or crankbait at dusk.

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 LRP 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
East Branch Clarion River Lake	No generation schedule posted by USACE LRP for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 1,645.10 ft (Mon 3:00 AM CT)	USACE LRP
Permit / regs	Unpowered boats need a registration or a launch permit.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Expect cool starts, near 30 to 38 degrees mornings, so dress in layers and plan for the bite to build by mid-morning. Fish from the shoreline near the Instanter Boat Launch in Elk State Park. Rocky points within reach of shore are good for smallmouth.

KAYAK

Launch at the Instanter Boat Launch and fish the north end. The lake is long and deep, so stay close to shore. On the windiest day, stay in protected coves and fish the windward points at the cove mouths.

BOAT

Launch at the Instanter Boat Launch in Elk State Park. There is no horsepower limit. Early, work wind-blown points and weed edges with spinnerbaits and squarebills.

LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait over weed flats on the warmest afternoon. Buzzbait along shady banks at first light. Hollow-body frog over matted weeds.

MID

3/8 oz spinnerbait on wind-blown points. Squarebill crankbait along weed edges and wood. Paddle-tail swimbait for suspended fish.

BOTTOM

Texas-rigged creature bait along weed edges. 3/8 oz jig on points and wood. Drop shot on deeper edges.