FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Leesville Lake area

Leesville Lake

Virginia

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

Strong odds

8/10

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
~ 11°F swing	+ No lightning	+ 1–3 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~0%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **56–67°F**, lows **33–34°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

56° F high

LOW	33°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	N 0–3 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:57 AM / 5:07 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

59° F high

LOW	33°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	W 1 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:58 AM / 5:07 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

67° F high

LOW	34°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SW 2 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:59 AM / 5:06 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:57 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.

Basis: estimated water ~57°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

Fall shad chase. Stripers are following shad in the channel and along points, and they feed most actively when water is moving.

ALSO BITING

Largemouth are a strong target on wood and docks once the sun climbs. Catfish bite well along the channel edges in the evening.

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 Appalachian Power (AEP) 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
Leesville Dam	No generation schedule posted by Appalachian Power (AEP) for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 601.91 ft (Nov 16 2026, 5:18 AM EST); tailwater flow, last-hour average 414 cfs (Nov 16 2026, 5:18 AM EST)	Appalachian Power (AEP)
Permit / regs	Check the live Virginia DWR regulations before you keep fish.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Public access near Pittsville and other posted ramps put riprap, points, and creek mouths within a short walk. Verify fees and hours, and be careful near the water's edge, since the level can change quickly. Cast a walking bait or swimbait along riprap while the fog lingers, then switch to a Texas rig or wacky rig around wood.

KAYAK

Launch at a public ramp with a kayak-friendly shoreline, and stay in the coves and creek arms. The current in the main channel can be strong when water is moving, so avoid the main channel in a kayak. Work coves with a swim jig, wacky rig, or Texas rig around wood and docks.

BOAT

Wait for the fog to lift enough to run safely, then throw topwater on main-lake points before switching to swimbaits along the channel. Watch for moving water and fish points and channel edges with swimbaits and jigging spoons. Look for stripers busting shad in the morning, then work docks and wood for largemouth in the afternoon.

LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait or popper when stripers break the surface. Topwater plug at first light on main-lake points. Buzzbait for largemouth on shady banks.

MID

Swimbait or bucktail with a soft trailer through bait schools. Spinnerbait on windy points for largemouth. Jerkbait on clear mornings.

BOTTOM

Jigging spoon on bait marks. Drop-shot or Texas rig for largemouth on wood. Football jig on deeper rock.