Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Lake Stephens area

Lake Stephens

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

6/10 — Fair odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
− Unsettled · 13°F swing	+ No lightning	+ 2–5 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~1%)	~ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **51–64°F**, lows **28–33°F**, rain chance up to **~1%**. Story is light and bait position — dawn and last light carry the window.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

51° F high

LOW	28°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	N 0–5 mph
RAIN	~1%
SUN	7:06 AM / 5:13 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

60° F high

LOW	30°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	E 2 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:07 AM / 5:12 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

64° F high

LOW	33°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SE 2 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:08 AM / 5:12 PM

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

Window: Mon–Wed · Air: N → E → SE · Bite window: dawn + last light

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:06 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: Slow down: steep points, channel drops and remaining grass just outside the creeks, between the fall flats and the 15-30 ft winter depth; suspending jerkbait with long pauses, jig-and-pig or blade bait crawled down the slope.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

Largemouth are in the late fall transition — water under the mid-50s, so bass are sliding off the shallow flats toward steeper points and channel drops near their fall feeding areas.

Basis: estimated water ~53°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response), adjusted by 1 nearby

NATURAL FORAGE

Cool nights and bright afternoons push bass to timber, docks, and shade once the sun is high. Expect fish to slide a touch deeper on the brightest midday hours and ease shallow again as shadows lengthen.

ALSO BITING

Crappie and bluegill stack on docks and brush with small jigs. Catfish can show on deeper timber and channel swings.

PRESSURE

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

USGS lake gauge; no water-temperature 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
Permit / regs	Arrive early if you need trailer parking, and share the ramp courteously when park day-users stack up.	
Clarity	Stain / clear match: Expect stained to fair clarity after a dry spell; darker greens and black-blue cover most water.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Fish legal shore at the Lake Stephens Recreation Area — start near the public ramp corridor and any posted bank fishing that stays open. Work a spinnerbait or buzzbait along timber and riprap at dawn, then a jig or soft creature under docks and laydowns once the sun is up. Stay off closed banks and marina slips.

KAYAK

Launch at the Lake Stephens Recreation Area ramp and paddle the first protected pocket before you cross open water. Early, slide timber to timber with a spinning rod; later, pitch docks and shade with a jig. Wear a PFD, watch ski traffic on warm afternoons, and keep clear of marked swim areas near the park.

BOAT

Idle out from the Lake Stephens Recreation Area ramp and graph the first timber lines before you run. Mornings call for a spinnerbait or chatterbait along wood; midday is a pitch-to-dock and laydown game. Respect no-wake and swim zones, and confirm trailer parking on busy afternoons.

LURE BOX

TOP

Spinnerbait 3/8 oz white/chartreuse at dawn. Walking bait or buzzbait along timber. Popper for calm dock shade.

MID

Chatterbait with a twin-tail. Squarebill on riprap and wood. Swim jig green-pumpkin along grass edges.

BOTTOM

Jig 3/8 oz green pumpkin with a craw trailer. Texas-rigged creature in timber. Ned or shaky head on outside wood.