FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Petenwell Lake area

Petenwell Lake

Wisconsin
Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Central Time · Walleye

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

7 /10

Fair odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Mostly stable	+ No lightning	− Up to 15 mph · open-water chop	+ Clear / sunny (~15%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **51–57°F**, lows **34–44°F**, rain chance up to **~15%**. Story is wind — pick banks the breeze is hitting and keep crossings short.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

51° F high

LOW	34°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	SW 6–10 mph
RAIN	~1%
SUN	6:56 AM / 4:32 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

56° F high

LOW	37°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	S 8–12 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:57 AM / 4:31 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

57° F high

LOW	44°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	S 12–15 mph
RAIN	~15%
SUN	6:58 AM / 4:30 PM

Frame: Breeziest day — use ripple on wind-blown banks and points; open-water chop is higher risk.

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:56 AM CST) → ~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 **Walleye plan: Fish rock and gravel 10-25 ft at low light; jig and minnow or troll stickbaits, moderate.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

Walleye are in the fall transition — following bait into creeks and onto flats as water cools.

Basis: estimated water ~51°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

Cold nights in the 30s and 40s are cooling the shallow flats quickly, and fish are sliding off summer wood and flats toward the old river channel, deeper breaks and wind-blown riprap where baitfish school. What's on the menu: young-of-year yellow perch, shiner

ALSO BITING

Crappie · white bass. Petenwell is known for crappie, which school on stumps and brush near channel edges; small jigs and minnows work.

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 Wisconsin River Power Co. 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
Petenwell Dam	No generation schedule posted by Wisconsin River Power Co. for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 923.45 ft (2026-11-16T04:22:28 CST); total flow (WEC, observed) 1,921 cfs (2026-11-16T04:22:28 CST)	Wisconsin River Power Co.

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Adams County's Petenwell County Park, near the dam on the east shore, has shoreline and riprap close to deeper water, the best walk-in walleye access on the lake. Juneau County's Wilderness Park on the west shore also gives you shoreline near its launch. A shallow minnow-style crankbait along riprap at dusk is a strong choice.

KAYAK

Petenwell's wide, shallow basin is dangerous for kayaks on windy days. Launch at Wilderness Park or Petenwell County Park only on calm mornings like the and stay close to shore, working stump edges and protected bays rather than crossing open water.

BOAT

Launch at Petenwell County Park for the dam end or at Wilderness Park for the west side. Use your electronics along the old river channel edges and on the drop from sand flats into deeper water, then jig a minnow vertically or slow-troll a crawler harness or minnow-profile crankbait along the break.

LURE BOX

TOP

Shallow minnow-style crankbait twitched over riprap at dusk. Slip bobber with a leech or minnow on wind-blown points. Surface baits are for bass and white bass, not walleye, this week.

MID

Shad- or minnow-profile crankbait trolled along channel breaks. Crawler harness on a slow troll over sand flats. Blade bait snapped off bottom after cold nights.

BOTTOM

Jig and fathead or shiner, 1/8–1/4 oz, on channel edges and wood. Jig with a 3" paddle-tail on sand-to-stump transitions. Live-bait rig with a minnow for neutral fish on the break.