



FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

West Point (AL) & Harding: Sunny Warm-Up, Chattahoochee Sister Dawn Windows

West Point Lake (Alabama side) · Lake Harding (labeled callout) Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4, 2026

bank / kayak / boat Highs ~80° → ~84° → ~87° (BMX) CT clocks · mostly fair warming midweek

Release boards thin at evening pull Soft recreational · no named trail event pulled

The Chattahoochee sisters draw a sunny late-September climb from the low 80s toward the upper 80s. Pack sunscreen, fish Alabama-side West Point at first light, and treat Harding as a labeled secondary stop when time allows.

● MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

NWS Birmingham (BMX) band pin for **middle** paints this Friday–Sunday **Cast** window. At pull: A slight chance of rain showers between 10am and 1pm, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny. High near 86, with temperatures falling to around 82 in the afternoon. Southeast wind... Local clocks on this water run Central Time — dawn windows shift with the angler.

FRIDAY OCT 2

86°F slight chance rain showers then chance showers and thunderstorms · night ~69°F chance showers and thunderstorms. Winds 5 mph. Fish dawn and last light first when skies harden.

SATURDAY OCT 3

84°F showers and thunderstorms likely · night ~69°F showers and thunderstorms likely. Winds 0 to 5 mph. Fish dawn and last light first when skies harden.

SUNDAY OCT 4

74°F showers and thunderstorms · night
~66°F showers and thunderstorms. Winds 0
to 5 mph. Fish dawn and last light first when
skies harden.

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

Unsettled air and shower/storm chances put
a premium on **pre-front and lull windows**.
Fish tighter to cover before cells; after a
pass, work muddy/clear seams and
windblown banks. Slide into creek arms if
lightning walks in.

Day cards from the locked weather-band representative pin (middle), pulled Friday morning for the
Fri–Sun window. Check live dam boards before you idle over a seam.

● GENERATOR SCHEDULE CHEAT SHEET

USACE West Point / Chattahoochee public generation calendars were **thin as a full Fri–Sun unit
block at evening pull**. Confirm USACE and sister-lake pages before you idle near dam-end
structure.

REACH	FRI–SUN NOTE	FAILOVER
West Point (AL hub)	Boards thin. Soft recreational midweek. GA bank is border awareness only.	USACE West Point · AL public ramps
Lake Harding (callout)	Labeled secondary. Boards thin. Confirm ramp before the hop.	Public access notices · sister- lake boards

Soft bite notes with quiet releases: points, grass, brush, and docks early; deeper edges and shade mid-day. If
water is moving at a dam face, look for bait on the first legal current break — still outside every restricted line.
Confirm ramp status before you trailer when pool has been swinging.

Practical pre-launch check: elevation versus last trip, ramp status on agency or park pages, and a
glance at any release remark. Birds and bait on the graph beat an empty calendar.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Primary public bank access through **Anderson Park** on the Alabama side of West Point Lake and posted AL day-use shoreline — fees, parking, and hours verify live. Work grass, riprap, and shaded pockets at first light. GA bank out of scope except brief border note. Harding remains HOLD unless manager confirms.

Shared: hydrate; stay outside dam restricted lines. Afternoon concrete gets hot fast — fish shade or quit to the truck.

Confirm park hours before you lock the truck. Soft midweek pressure until sunny Wednesday — leave margin before recreation stacks popular AL access.

KAYAK

Launch at the named public ramp when open; confirm ramp and parking before you strap the boat. Fish creek arms, grass flats, or protected banks away from main-channel ski traffic after mid-morning.

Wind on open water can end a kayak day early once recreational traffic builds — have a bailout shoreline planned. PFD on, whistle, and a sun kit every trip.

Pack a short rod for tight cover and a longer spinning setup for point casting. On the warmest Wednesday afternoon, abort open fetches early and finish along a protected bank rather than fighting wakes back to the ramp.

BOAT

Plan: **first light--~9 AM CT** on points and grass; late morning docks and shade; mid-day deeper edges with electronics. Launch early at Anderson Park when open — confirm ramp status before you trailer.

Soft USACE language only when boards show units. Soft midweek pressure; sunny Wednesday traffic rises. Mark bait height at dawn. Fish the Alabama plan for this product.

Do not force a Harding-only day from this Cast. If Wednesday wakes stack, finish in a protected AL pocket.

● LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait bone/chrome at dawn on points. Poppers over grass or brush on slick mornings. Buzzbait black/blue along shady banks evenings.

MID

Spinnerbait white/chartreuse on windy points. Squarebill citrus on riprap and docks. Soft swimbait for suspended fish mid-day.

BOTTOM

Green pumpkin creature in grass/brush. Brown football jig on point drops. Drop-shot shad pattern when water is clear under high sun.

● BASS LIFE STAGE

Late September on the Chattahoochee sisters is a post-summer transition. Largemouth still relate to grass, docks, and points.

Spawning is long done. Fish feed and comfort one morning at a time — cool nights pull fish shallow at first light; warm afternoons push them to shade and depth. Handle quickly in warm water.

● FORAGE THIS WEEK

Most likely menu: threadfin and gizzard shad, bluegill around grass and docks. Hatch reports are thin. Match the graph and birds.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

Crappie on brush and docks. Catfish on deeper holes. Soft hybrid language if bait stacks on seams when units run.

Crowd / Heavy Traffic: No named national trail event pulled for this water Mon Sep 28 – Wed Sep 30. Soft midweek recreational pressure under sunny skies; traffic rises on the warmest afternoons. Regs confirm live before you keep fish.

Looking ahead (next 1–3 weeks): Cooler October nights often sharpen dawn topwater. Keep pulling USACE elevations. Next **Cast:** Friday window Fri–Sun.

● PATTERN NOTES (THIS WEEK)

Late September on this water is still a feed-and-comfort game. Cooler nights pull fish shallow at first light; the afternoon rebound pushes them to shade, docks, grass edges, and deeper breaks unless generation moves bait into a legal current seam.

Start every morning by marking bait height on one trusted piece of structure before the first cast. If bait is up, open with a walking bait or spinnerbait; if bait is down, open with a jig, Texas-rig, or soft swimbait on the break. That single fork saves wasted hours chasing last week's memory.

When generation calendars stay thin, treat birds, bait on the graph, and ramp status as your live board. Soft unit language only when pages show water moving — and even then, fish outside every restricted line.

Crowd picture for Mon Sep 28 – Wed Sep 30: soft midweek recreational pressure under mostly sunny skies, rising on the warmest Wednesday afternoon. Get the dawn hour, then leave a margin before wakes and ski traffic stack popular corridors.

Regs, ramp fees, and park hours confirm live before you keep fish or lock the truck. This Cast is a plan for the water — not a substitute for the agency page you should glance at the night before.

● CHATTAHOOCHEE SISTERS MIDWEEK NOTES

This product covers the Alabama-side Chattahoochee sister lakes labeled for this Cast. Fish the AL hub thoroughly; treat GA bank as border awareness only. Harding remains HOLD for insert weeks unless manager confirms — do not force a Harding-only day from this product.

Electronics tip: mark bait height on a known point or grass edge at dawn. Soft USACE language only when boards show units. Stay outside dam restricted lines.

Monday's cooler morning is the cleanest topwater window. Tuesday–Wednesday warm — shorten shallow and rotate to docks and shade by late morning.

Check color at the ramp and match lure color under high sun. Soft midweek pressure; sunny Wednesday traffic rises.

Mental picture: sunny dawn points early in the week, then a hotter Wednesday shade bite with more boats after mid-morning.

If Wednesday opens calm, walk a bone bait down the first clean point; if chop builds, start spinnerbait on the windward edge.

Pack water, polarized lenses, and a shell looking ahead. Leave ramp margin before afternoon recreation stacks popular corridors.

Primary is largemouth; crappie and catfish stay secondary also-notes. Keep Georgia shoreline rules as a brief border note.

● ON THE WATER THIS WINDOW

Treat dawn as the whole trip on the warmest days of this window. A clean first hour on a point, grass edge, seam, or creek mouth beats three hours of high-sun wandering.

Soft generation boards mean you fish structure and bait first; if water is moving at a dam face later, look for bait on the first legal current break — still outside every restricted line.

Decision fork: calm slick mornings open with a topwater or walking bait on the first clean bank you trust; breezy or wake-chop mornings open with a spinnerbait or soft swimbait along the windward edge, then rotate to shade. That fork covers most of this Cast without overthinking the box.

Primary this week is largemouth on points and grass. Secondary species stay short also-notes only. Fish the Alabama plan for bank, kayak, and boat cards this week.

Confirm elevation vs last trip before you trailer. Birds and bait on the graph beat an empty calendar. Next Cast looks at the Friday window Fri–Sun with a fresh pull.

● WINDOW DISCIPLINE

Leave time margin for the ramp and the drive. Soft midweek pressure evaporates once afternoon recreation stacks popular corridors — especially on the sunny Wednesday rebound. Get the dawn hour right, then leave while the fishing is still good.

Practical pre-launch check: elevation vs last trip, ramp status on agency or park pages, and a glance at any release remark. Birds working a flat at dawn are the best free tip when calendars stay thin.

Hydrate early. Clear late-September sun puts UV and glare up after 9 AM — polarized lenses and longer casts help once surface glass burns off. Keep a rain shell even on fair midweek cards; looking ahead into Thursday can still bring storms on some corridors.

Pure-Gas.org E0 · this water

Closest Pure-Gas.org ethanol-free stations / corridor notes for this water (saved listing — stations only; listings can change; verify E0 grade at the pump if grade matters to you):

- **Valley / Lanett / I-85 corridor Pure-Gas listings** — confirm E0 grade on site
- **Marina fuel** — often not E0 — ask before you fill

Station list from Pure-Gas.org for this water. No pump prices on this card. Confirm grade and hours on site.

SOURCES

NWS Birmingham (BMX) (Friday morning CT pull) · agency lake / park / USACE / APC pages as relevant (generation calendars thin at pull) · Pure-Gas.org station list (reuse) · state regs (live) · Trail calendars skimmed (no named event confirmed unless noted).