



FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Lake Pleasant: Storm-Likely Mon–Tue, Sunny Wednesday & Peoria Hub Dawn Windows

Lake Pleasant · Maricopa County Parks Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4, 2026 bank / kayak / boat

Highs ~81° → ~80° → ~85° (PSR) AZ clocks · monsoon-edge midweek

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

Pleasant draws a classic monsoon-edge card this window — likely storms Monday and Tuesday, then a sunny Wednesday reset over the Peoria hub. Pack rain gear for the midweek cells, and let first light on the main-lake points tell you if the shad are still walking shallow.

● MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

NWS Phoenix (PSR) band pin for **middle** paints this Friday–Sunday **Cast** window. At pull: Mostly clear, with a low around 73. East wind around 6... Local clocks on this water run Arizona (no DST) — dawn windows shift with the angler.

FRIDAY OCT 2

99°F sunny · night ~73°F mostly clear.
Winds 0 to 9 mph. Fish dawn and last light first when skies harden.

SATURDAY OCT 3

99°F sunny · night ~72°F mostly clear.
Winds 2 to 6 mph. Fish dawn and last light first when skies harden.

SUNDAY OCT 4

98°F sunny · night ~75°F mostly clear.
Winds 5 to 14 mph. Fish dawn and last light first when skies harden.

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

Mostly fair pattern favors **dawn and dusk**.
Midday fish slide deeper or under shade unless current or wind moves bait. Period themes this pull: Mostly Clear / Sunny.

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

Lake Pleasant / CAP-area public generation and release boards were **not confirmed as a full Fri–Sun unit calendar at evening pull**. Confirm Cap / county park lake notices before you idle near dam-end structure.

REACH	FRI–SUN NOTE	FAILOVER
Main lake / Agua Fria arm	Storm runoff can stain arms after Mon–Tue cells. Elevation and ramp status at county parks rule access.	Maricopa County Parks lake notices · Pleasant Harbor / public ramp boards
Dam-end restricted water	Boards thin for unit timing. Soft language only — fish legal points and brush outside posted lines.	Posted signs · on-water observation

Soft bite notes with quiet releases: points, brush piles, and docks early; deeper brush and ledges mid-day. If water is moving at a dam face, look for bait stacked on the first legal current break — still outside every restricted line. Confirm ramp depth before you back a deep-V when elevation has been swinging.

Practical pre-launch check: elevation vs last trip, ramp status on park/USFS/NPS notices, 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 **Maricopa County Parks / Lake Pleasant** day-use areas near the Peoria hub — fees, parking, and hours verify live. Work riprap, brush, and shaded pockets at first light.

Shared: hydrate; storm cells Monday–Tuesday can shut bank sessions down fast. Stay out of dam-restricted zones and private marina slips. Afternoon sun on open riprap is brutal even when highs sit in the low 80s.

Confirm park hours before you lock the truck. Soft midweek pressure until sunny Wednesday — leave margin to get off exposed banks before recreation stacks the Peoria corridor.

KAYAK

Launch from public county-park ramps when open; confirm ramp and parking vs lake elevation before you strap the boat. Fish creek arms and brushy pockets away from main-lake ski traffic after mid-morning.

Wind on Pleasant's open fetches can end a kayak day early on storm days — have a bailout shoreline. PFD on, whistle, and a sun kit every trip.

After a cell passes, check stained pockets for bass that rode the bait in with the mud line. Wednesday's sunny reset favors longer casts on cleaner points — pack both a walking bait and a spinnerbait for leftover wind.

BOAT

Plan: **first light--~9 AM AZ** on main-lake points and brush; late morning docks and shade; mid-day deeper points with electronics. Launch early at the Peoria / county-park public ramp corridor when open — confirm status before you trailer.

Soft current language only near legal dam-end structure. Soft midweek pressure under storms; sunny Wednesday brings more recreational traffic. Mark bait height at dawn before the first cast.

If cells build Monday–Tuesday, leave open fetches for protected arms. Carry a dedicated topwater rod for dawn birds and a weather abort — metro recreation stacks this lake once the sun climbs.

● LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait in bone / sexy shad at dawn on main-lake points. Poppers over brush when the surface is slick Wednesday. Buzzbait black/blue along storm-stained edges after Monday–Tuesday cells.

MID

Spinnerbait white/chartreuse on windy points. Squarebill citrus on riprap and marina rock. Soft swimbait on a jighead for suspended fish over deeper brush when the sun is high.

BOTTOM

Green pumpkin creature Texas-rigged in brush. Brown/orange football jig on point drops. Carolina-rigged lizard when fish slide out after the morning flurry.

● BASS LIFE STAGE

Late September at Pleasant is a post-summer / monsoon-edge transition. Largemouth still relate to points, brush, and docks. Storm edges can turn the bite on; lightning ends it. Handle fish quickly in warm afternoon water.

Spawning is long finished. You are fishing feed and comfort — storm edges and bait flushes early in the week, then cleaner-water point fishing by Wednesday if the basin gets a rinse and a reset. Handle fish quickly in warm afternoon water.

● FORAGE THIS WEEK

Most likely menu: threadfin shad on points and creek mouths, bluegill around docks and brush. Hatch reports are thin. Match the graph and the birds. Stained arms after Tuesday cells often concentrate bait on the first clean edge.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

Crappie on brush piles and docks. Catfish on deeper holes with cut bait. Soft recreational Mon–Tue; Wednesday sunny traffic rises. Regs: AZGFD (confirm live).

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

Looking ahead (next 1–3 weeks): Clearer early-October patterns favor stronger dawn topwater. Watch elevation and county-park ramp notices. Next **Cast:** Friday window Fri–Sun.

● PLEASANT-SPECIFIC MIDWEEK NOTES

Lake Pleasant's Peoria hub is the most accessible big-water bass option for much of the Northwest Valley, which means sunny Wednesday traffic will rise even if Monday and Tuesday stay quieter under storm chances. Plan the dawn window like it is the whole trip — because after 10 AM AZ on a clear day, you are sharing points with recreational traffic.

The Agua Fria arm and main-lake points often fish as two different lakes after a monsoon rinse. If Tuesday's storms dirty the arm, start Wednesday on the first clean main-lake point you can find, then rotate into the stain line only if birds and bait show there. Forcing a dirty-water pattern on clear points (or the reverse) is the fastest way to blank a good morning.

County park fees and ramp rules change with season and elevation — verify live before you trailer. A closed ramp or full parking lot at mid-morning on Wednesday is a real risk; arriving at first light solves both more often than a clever lure change.

Electronics tip: mark bait height on a known main-lake point at dawn before the first cast. Pleasant's open fetches grow whitecaps fast when a gust front leads a cell — if the graph is bouncing and the bow is pounding, slide into an arm rather than toughing out a bad boat ride for one more cast.

Livewell and fish-care note for the warm rebound: Wednesday's climb toward the mid-80s still stresses fish in a hot box. If you are cull-fishing, circulate water and keep the session short. Catch-and-release mornings fish cleaner for everyone when the afternoon heat loads up.

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):

- Pilot Travel Center (verify E0) — 17405 S 40th St, Phoenix AZ 85048 · ~metro Confirm on Pure-Gas.org
- Race-gas options near AZ 74 corridor (verify) — Lake Pleasant Pkwy / AZ 74 area · ~near park approaches Often race gas — call; not always street E0
- Pure-Gas.org Arizona directory — <https://www.pure-gas.org/> · state list West Valley E0 sparse

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

● ON THE WATER THIS WINDOW

Monday and Tuesday are storm-edge days — fish dawn on main-lake points, keep a bailout arm in mind, and quit open water when lightning closes in. Wednesday's sunny rebound is the longest fishing day of the three: start shallow, slide to docks and deeper brush by late morning, and finish with a topwater in the last light if the lake lays down.

Line and leader: 12–15 lb fluoro for most jig and creature work; lighter leaders when the water cleans Wednesday and fish inspect every bait. A dedicated walking-bait rod earns its keep on slick dawn points. Carry a spinnerbait for gusty storm edges when a topwater gets hard to work.

County-park logistics: fees, parking, and ramp status verify live. Arriving at first light beats fighting for a parking spot on the sunny Wednesday. Pack more water than the Peoria drive suggests — open decks heat up fast even when the air sits in the low 80s.

Mental picture for this Cast: short storm-edge sessions early in the week, then a fuller Wednesday dawn-to-shade rotation with rising recreational traffic after mid-morning. Fish what the sky and the graph give you.

SOURCES

NWS Phoenix (PSR) (Friday morning AZ pull) · agency lake / park / USFS / NPS pages (generation calendars thin at pull) · Pure-Gas.org station list (reuse) · AZGFD regs (live) · Trail calendars skimmed (no named event confirmed for this window).