FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

**Weather**
National Weather Service forecast for Gillham Lake area

# Gillham Lake

Arkansas

Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Central Time · Largemouth

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

Fair odds

**7** /10

0 2 4 6 8 10

| PRESSURE | STORMS | WIND | SKY / RAIN | BASS STAGE | CROWD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ~ 11°F swing | + No lightning | + 5–5 mph usable ripple | + Clear / sunny (~2%) | ~ Fall transition · turnover | + Weekday · lighter traffic |

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **64–69°F**, lows **34–45°F**, rain chance up to **~2%**. Story is light and bait position — dawn and last light carry the window.

## THREE-DAY WEATHER

### MONDAY NOV 16

**64°** F high

| | |
|---|---|
| LOW | 34°F |
| SKY | Sunny |
| WIND | ENE 0–5 mph |
| RAIN | ~2% |
| SUN | 6:50 AM / 5:12 PM |

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

### TUESDAY NOV 17

**65°** F high

| | |
|---|---|
| LOW | 37°F |
| SKY | Sunny |
| WIND | E 0–5 mph |
| RAIN | ~0% |
| SUN | 6:51 AM / 5:11 PM |

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

### WEDNESDAY NOV 18

**69°** F high

| | |
|---|---|
| LOW | 45°F |
| SKY | Sunny |
| WIND | ESE 0–5 mph |
| RAIN | ~1% |
| SUN | 6:52 AM / 5:11 PM |

*Frame: Stable day — first-light moving bait, then slow down around shade and cover once the sun is up.*

Window: Mon–Wed | Air: ENE → E → ESE | Bite window: dawn + last light

## HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

### MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:50 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 **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. Possible turnover window on stratified reservoirs — the bite can go off for a few days.**

Basis: estimated water ~63°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response); no water-temperature

### NATURAL FORAGE

**Most likely menu: shad or threadfin in open pockets where the lake carries them, plus bluegill around brush and docks. Match what you see along the bank at dawn.**

### ALSO BITING

**Channel catfish on deeper edges after dark where allowed. Crappie soft language on brush if the lake carries timber.**

### PRESSURE

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

gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

## DAM & WATER — GENERATION SCHEDULE

FIXED Dam-controlled water. No generation schedule posted by USACE SWL 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 |
|---|---|---|
| Gillham Dam | No generation schedule posted by USACE SWL for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18<br>Observed: pool 500.47 ft (Mon 4:15 AM CT); observed outflow (USACE) 16 cfs (Mon 4:00 AM CT) | USACE SWL |
| Permit / regs | Work permitted shoreline, points, and posted piers at first light. | |
| Clarity | Ramp-side clarity · agency notices. | |

## ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

### BANK

Primary bank access is at Gillham Lake USACE public ramp. Work permitted shoreline, points, and posted piers at first light. Start on shade lines, brush, and the first break.

### KAYAK

Launch at Gillham Lake USACE public ramp when the ramp and parking are open. Fish protected coves and windward points on light-breeze days. Have a bailout bank and get off the water for lightning.

### BOAT

Plan dawn at Gillham Lake USACE public ramp: topwater and spinnerbait on points and bait, then docks, brush, and the first drop. Confirm ramp status before you trailer. Soft weekday pressure still rises after mid-morning — launch early.

## LURE BOX

### TOP

Walking bait or popper at dawn on slick points. Soft buzzbait along shade edges when cloud cover holds.

### MID

Spinnerbait white/chartreuse when a breeze chops the surface. Soft swimbait off points. Squarebill on riprap.

### BOTTOM

Green pumpkin creature or Texas-rig worm in brush. Dropshot or shaky head on the first break when fish suspend.