



FRESHWATER CAST · FRIDAY CAST

Cherry Creek: Storm Chances, Metro Pressure Soft & Largemouth Lead

Cherry Creek Reservoir · Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4, 2026 · bank / kayak / boat · times in MT

Mild weekend · Fri ~79° → Sat–Sun ~83–81° MT

Primary: largemouth bass

Verify dam boards before you go

Soft Friday recreational · no named trail event pulled

Front Range September finally brings storm chances to Cherry Creek — pack a rain shell, fish the first hour on the points, and let the bait on the graph pick your pocket between the showers.

● WEEKEND OUTLOOK

National Weather Service Boulder's point forecast for Cherry Creek Reservoir frames a dry, mild weekend for the **Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4, 2026** window. Read every clock in this Cast as **MT**. Friday opens near **79°F** after overnight air near **48°F** (sunny, 6 to 15 mph S). Saturday climbs to about **83°F / 51°F** (sunny, 2 to 9 mph S). Sunday holds near **81°F / 51°F** (sunny, 6 to 13 mph SSE). No active watches or warnings were highlighted for this pull. Barometer was not logged station-by-station on every arm; treat pressure as steady-fair under this quiet pattern.

For **largemouth bass**, that pattern favors fishing hard around storm edges rather than waiting for a bluebird day. **First light and the hour after a cell clears** are the primary windows when thunder is not overhead. Midday plans should stay flexible — duck into a protected pocket or the truck when radar lights up. Friday is the softer traffic day; Saturday and Sunday recreational pressure builds around popular ramps, and **no named national trail event was pulled** for this water on Oct 2–4.

Carry more layers than you think you need — highs fall through the midweek on many Front Range and plains waters, and wet wind feels colder than the number on the phone. A simple three-rod rotation covers almost every bank you will fish. When a pocket goes quiet, make one short move to the next point that shows bait on the graph rather than a long empty run.

FRIDAY OCT 2

~79°F

Low ~48° · dry · 6 to 15
mph S

Sunny

Sunrise ~6:55 AM · Sunset

~6:38 PM MT

*Best bite: first light—~10 AM;
softest weekend traffic*

SATURDAY OCT 3

~83°F

Low ~51° · dry · 2 to 9 mph
S

Sunny

Sunrise ~6:56 AM · Sunset

~6:36 PM MT

*Best bite: first light—~10 AM;
shade and structure after 11
AM*

SUNDAY OCT 4

~81°F

Low ~51° · dry · 6 to 13
mph SSE

Sunny

Sunrise ~6:57 AM · Sunset

~6:35 PM MT

*Best bite: dawn edges; mid-
day slow under cover*

● LEVEL & FLOW CHEAT SHEET

Colorado Parks and Wildlife / Cherry Creek State Park pages are the live source for pool and park notices on Cherry Creek. Fixed Fri–Sun recreational generator calendars are often thin for Colorado reservoirs — treat any elevation, release, or advisory as live. Failover: check the agency and park page the morning you launch, and call the marina or park desk if you need a same-day condition read. Advisories can change without notice.

WATER	OBSERVED	FLOW / BOARDS	HOW TO FISH IT
Cherry Creek Dam / pool	Verify live CPW / park pool and recreation notices before you launch	No fixed Fri–Sun recreational release calendar pulled	Fish points and shade; treat any flow change as a live check, not a schedule

Dam and restricted zones stay off-limits whether flows are quiet or moving. If a local advisory, fire restriction, or temporary closure appears on the park or agency page, that overrides any general weekend outlook here.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Public shoreline inside **Cherry Creek State Park** puts riprap, points, and cove shade in casting range near day-use nodes and trail access. Fan-cast the first break at light with a spinnerbait or soft plastic, then pick apart docks, brush, and individual points with a Texas-rig once the sun — or a storm break — arrives. Stay on posted park shoreline only, give swim beaches and crowded trails room after mid-morning, and skip any closed stretch. If bait dimples along a riprap seam, stay and rotate a search bait and a bottom bait before you hike to the next pocket. Carry a small rain shell on the hike — showers can arrive faster than the walk back to the truck — and keep casts tight to the first break when wind turns a bank on.

KAYAK

Launch early at a park ramp and paddle onto the nearest point or riprap stretch before weekend-style metro traffic shows on a weekday. Cherry Creek rewards a short, thorough sector plan more than racing the whole reservoir. Wear a PFD, watch afternoon wind and storm cells, and have a bailout toward a protected cove when radar lights up. Keep a spinnerbait, a soft plastic, and a Texas-rig ready. Mark bait first, then fish that water thoroughly instead of paddling past every bank. If a cell builds while you are mid-lake, turn toward the nearest protected shoreline early rather than finishing “one more cast” under dark sky.

BOAT

Park ramps put you on points, islands, and cove mouths quickly. Start shallow at dawn with a topwater or spinnerbait when storms allow, then rotate to jigs and Texas-rigs on shade and the first break. Midday, fish protected pockets rather than fighting open-water chop or lightning. Keep a spotter when running, give rental and ski traffic space, and honor dam restricted zones. When a cell clears and the wind steadies, fish the next hour hard on the nearest baited point before the sky darkens again. Keep a simple run plan on the graph: launch, fish the nearest baited structure, then expand only if marks stay empty.

● PURE-GAS.ORG E0 · THIS WATER

Closest public **ethanol-free (E0)** listings from Pure-Gas.org near Cherry Creek. Listings can change — confirm the E0 grade at the pump if that matters for your motor. No pump prices in this Cast.

- Murphy Express — Centennial, CO · ~2.6 mi · MURPHY · E0 octane 87 · 303-708-1139
- Quiktrip #4242 — Greenwood Village, CO · ~2.9 mi · QUIKTRIP · E0 octane 87 · 720-306-9717
- Murphy Express #8826 — Aurora, CO · ~3.3 mi · MURPHY · E0 octane 87 · 720-477-7799

- Quiktrip — Greenwood Village, CO · ~3.5 mi · QUIKTRIP · E0 octane 87 · 850-692-0037
Call ahead when you can — E0 availability changes. Distances are rough estimates to this water.

• LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait and buzzbait on calm points at dawn when storms allow.

MID

Spinnerbait or chatterbait on the blown bank; soft plastic on riprap and docks.

BOTTOM

Texas-rig, compact jig, and drop-shot for midday shade and the break.

Match size to **bluegill, crawfish, and shad where schools show**. Size down when fish short-strike; size up when you mark bigger bait. Primary species this week is **largemouth bass**.

● LARGEMOUTH BASS LIFE STAGE

Spawn is long over. This midweek window is about **post-summer largemouth** tracking bait and shade along points and riprap. Storm edges can sharpen the bite when lightning is not overhead — fish the stable window hard, then reset after a cell passes. Match the bait you mark on the graph or see dimpling on the surface.

What's on the menu: bluegill, crawfish, and shad where schools show are the most likely menu this week. Public hatch reports are often thin — lead with the forage above, and match the bait you mark on the graph or see dimpling on the surface.

Watch for bait dimpling on calm mornings and for birds working a point or riprap seam. Those clues beat a generic deep-only rule this week. If fish short-strike, downsize before you abandon the spot; if they flash and leave, try one size larger or a different profile on the next cast.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

Smallmouth and wipers show when bait balls stack on the main lake. **Trout** hold in cooler pockets for light-line anglers. Lead with largemouth for this Cast.

● PRESSURE, CLARITY & BITE WINDOWS

Clarity swings with wind and showers — a stained bank can sit next to clearer main-lake rock. Start with natural colors in clearer water and switch to a darker, slower profile when a pocket muddies. Decision tree for this midweek: **low light / storm edge** = points and riprap with a search bait; **stable cloud** = slower bottom baits on the break; **lightning** = off the water, no debate. Weekday recreation is softer than weekend traffic — launch early, fish the plan, and treat crowd pressure as soft weekday recreation unless a named event shows on the calendar.

Heavy Traffic: no named trail event pulled for Mon–Wed on this water. Soft Friday recreational; Saturday–Sunday builds at popular ramps only.

● METRO STORM-WINDOW GAME PLAN

Build the day around radar on this Front Range midweek. Fish hard for 45–90 minutes when a cell clears, then be willing to sit out lightning in the truck or a protected cove. Keep three rods ready and stay inside one sector near your launch rather than empty long runs under dark sky. Match lure size to the bait you mark after each shower rather than forcing one pattern all day.

Keep notes on which bank produced and what the graph showed — early-fall patterns often repeat the next morning if nights stay cool and the wind direction holds. If Wednesday's storms arrive early, shorten the open-water window and commit to closer structure sooner.

● ACCESS NOTES & SAFETY

Regs change by water and season. Use the live CPW licensing and regulation pages for bag limits and gear rules before you fish. Park fees, mussel rules, and metro crowd patterns matter — check CPW notices before you trail in. Wear a PFD when the boat is on plane, keep a spotter in busy lanes, and give swimming beaches room. If lightning builds, get off exposed water early.

Trailer lights, spare PFDs, and a basic tool kit belong in the truck on any midweek hop — small failures cost more fishing time than almost any lure change. Tell someone your launch and return window when you fish alone, and leave with enough daylight for the drive if Wednesday storms run long.

● GEAR & PACING NOTES

On a wet Colorado midweek, pace matters more than covering every mile of shoreline. Fish a productive bank thoroughly, then make one deliberate move to the next point that shows bait on the graph. Keep rain shells, spare socks, and a dry bag in the truck so a soaking cell does not end the day. A calm, safe plan between storms beats a rushed lake-wide tour under lightning risk.

Match lure size to the bait you mark after each shower — cold rain can shrink the bite for an hour, then turn it back on along the same seam. If Wednesday's coverage stays high, shorten the open-water plan and commit to structure you can reach quickly from the ramp.

● LOOKING AHEAD

Next 1–3 weeks: watch the first true cool, stable autumn stretch and any weekend tournament calendars that would stack Heavy Traffic on Cherry Creek. As nights keep dropping, expect largemouth bass to spend more of the morning on bait and edges. Confirm mussel rules, park hours, and storm patterns as the calendar flips.

● SOURCES

NWS Boulder point forecast · Colorado Parks and Wildlife / Cherry Creek State Park · Pure-Gas.org E0 listings. Elevations, advisories, and station lists change — verify dam boards and pump grade before you go.