



FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST IOWA

Saylorville Lake: White bass & crappie Midweek Plan

Monday Sep 21 – Thursday Sep 24, 2026 · Saylorville Lake · bank, kayak & boat · times in CTprimary: White bass & crappie

Storm chances in window — lightning plan

Zone CT

Primary: White bass & crappie

Mon–Thu midweek

Saylorville Lake will not reinvent itself overnight — but if you treat **white bass & crappie** as the lead story and keep a lightning plan for midweek cells, Mon–Thu still hands you a usable window.

• MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

NWS DMX / Polk City corridor (pin Saylorville Lake; pulled Sun Sep 20, 2026 · ~8:45 PM CT). All clock references below are **CT**. **Monday:** ~61°F — Showers And Thunderstorms · precip ~86% · 10 mph NE **Tuesday:** ~62°F — Mostly Cloudy · precip ~14% · 8 mph ENE **Wednesday:** ~64°F — Mostly Sunny · precip ~0% · 3 to 7 mph E **Thursday:** ~65°F — Slight Chance Rain Showers · precip ~18% · 2 to 6 mph SE **Barometer / clarity:** not instrumented this pull — qualitative only. **Crowd:** Weekday soft unless noted. **No named trail event pulled for Mon–Thu** at Sunday evening research (do not invent).

WINDOW

Mon–Thu

through Thu evening CT

WATER CLARITY / DEPTH

Estimate only — no live turbidity used. Re-check after storms.

Match primary species: shallow edges dawn/dusk; deeper structure midday / post-front.

CROWD / PRESSURE

Weekday soft. **No named trail event pulled for Mon–Thu.** Soft recreational only.

MONDAY

~61°F

Showers And Thunderstorms · precip ~86% · 10 mph NE

Local times CT

Fish weather edges; off water for lightning

TUESDAY

~62°F

Mostly Cloudy · precip ~14% · 8 mph ENE

Local times CT

Fish weather edges; off water for lightning

WEDNESDAY

~64°F

Mostly Sunny · precip ~0% · 3 to 7 mph E

Local times CT

Fish weather edges; off water for lightning

THURSDAY

~65°F

Slight Chance Rain Showers · precip ~18% · 2 to 6 mph SE

Local times CT

Fish weather edges; off water for lightning

● DAM & CURRENT / GENERATOR SCHEDULE CHEAT SHEET

Pull Sun Sep 20, 2026 · ~8:45 PM CT. Elevations and discharges are **not invented** — boards THIN at this pull; soft re-check before launch.

PROJECT	OBSERVED	GENERATOR SCHEDULE	HOW TO FISH IT
USACE Saylorville Lake USACE Rock Island District	THIN at Sunday evening pull — no inventing elevations or unit counts. verify agency boards before you go.	No fixed Mon–Thu public generator calendar confirmed at pull. Soft re-check language.	Fish structure and bait first; when releases pulse, bait rearranges near channels — kayaks need an exit plan.

Schedules change — re-check before launch.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Dawn/dusk primary-species
windows on public banks and
park access.

Watch sky Tue–Wed if storms
in forecast.

Respect private docks /
restricted zones.

KAYAK

Protected coves when main-
lake wind rises.

PFD; skip stilling basins /
restricted water.

Soft weekday ramp ease vs
weekend.

BOAT

Graph bait / primary forage
first.

Storm edges can turn bites
briefly — then leave for
lightning.

Soft weekday traffic; plan
around any local events you
confirm live.

● ETHANOL-FREE FUEL NEAR THIS WATER

PURE-GAS.ORG E0 · NEAR THIS WATER

Source: [Pure-Gas.org](https://pure-gas.org) pulled **Sun Sep 20, 2026 · ~8:45 PM CT**

Current prices — may change; verify at the pump. Pure-Gas does not post pump prices; no prices invented.

Casey's — 1100 S 3rd St, Polk City, IA · ~2.0 mi · 87/91 octane E0 · CASEY'S price not listed on Pure-Gas — verify at the pump 515-984-6754 [Pure-Gas](https://pure-gas.org)

Casey's General Store — 1801 Sycamore St, Granger, IA · ~3.9 mi · 87 octane E0 · CASEY'S price not listed on Pure-Gas — verify at the pump 515-999-2843 [Pure-Gas](https://pure-gas.org)

Casey's General Store — 1650 Ne Beaverbrooke Blvd., Grimes, IA · ~5.5 mi · 87/91 octane E0 · CASEY'S price not listed on Pure-Gas — verify at the pump 515-300-3267 [Pure-Gas](https://pure-gas.org)

Kwik Star — 1450 Ne Gateway Ct., Grimes, IA · ~5.5 mi · 91 octane E0 · KWIK STAR price not listed on Pure-Gas — verify at the pump 515-300-9348 [Pure-Gas](https://pure-gas.org)

● LURE BOX — TOP / MID / BOTTOM

TOP

Chrome walking bait on boils

Small topwater when birds work

Spoon on surface busts

MID

Small shad crank

Sassy shad / paddle tail

Casting spoon

BOTTOM

Vertical jigging spoon

Blade bait

Live shad where legal

Stain/clear: Match water: natural/smoke in clear; chartreuse/black in stain after storms.

● PRIMARY SPECIES LIFE STAGE + WHAT'S ON THE MENU

Late summer → early fall transition on Saylorville Lake. **Primary this week: White bass & crappie.** Des Moines metro USACE — white bass/crappie pulses common; largemouth in coves.

What's on the menu (most likely): **shad.** Tie lure size/color/retrieve to that forage — do not invent a specific hatch.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

- ****Crappie / panfish**** — brush and docks
- ****Catfish**** — cut bait / night
- ****White bass / hybrids**** — if shad schools show

Iowa fishing regs (live-check): <https://www.iowadnr.gov/fishing>

● LOOKING AHEAD

Cooler trend into late week may speed early-fall feel. **No named trail event pulled for Mon–Thu.** Re-check dam boards and NWS before each launch.

Sources: NWS forecast pull Sun Sep 20, 2026 · ~8:45 PM CT; Pure-Gas.org E0 identity Sun Sep 20, 2026 · ~8:45 PM CT; agency dam boards THIN/not confirmed this pull. Schedules change — re-check before launch.

Freshwater Cast · IN/ · Monday Cast · Iowa · Drafted Sun Sep 20, 2026 · ~8:45 PM CT · Schedules change — re-check before launch.