



FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST · MN

St. Croix River (MN)

St. Croix River (MN) · Mon Sep 21 – Thu Sep 24, 2026 · bank / kayak / boat · times in **CT**

Primary: Smallmouth bass

Early fall transition

Crowd: re-check local calendars

Zone CT

Early fall on St. Croix River (MN): lead with **Smallmouth bass** on current / rock / wood, then adjust if the wind or generation flips the script.

• MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

Early-fall pattern: cooling nights, warm afternoons. Re-check NWS point forecast before launch. Highs often upper 60s–upper 70s CT midweek depending on latitude; north MN cooler. Pattern language for Stillwater reach: fish current / rock / wood. Barometer swings after fronts — give fish a half-day after a hard north wind before you write the day off.

MON–TUE

Cooler mornings CT. Focus low-light windows for Smallmouth bass. Midday: slower presentations or deeper edges if skies go bright.

WED–THU

Watch the next short-range NWS update CT. If nights keep falling, expect a stronger shallow/creek-mouth conversation into the weekend.

• LEVEL / FLOW CHEAT SHEET

Re-check live agency boards before launch (USGS / USACE / dam operator for this water). Do not invent pool or generation numbers. What matters for Smallmouth bass: stable or slowly falling water usually keeps fish relating to current / rock / wood; rising dirty water pushes fish shallower or to current seams.

Pin: 45.05000, -92.81700 · re-pull gauges the morning you launch (CT).

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Public ramps, parks, and riprap closest to current / rock / wood. Low-light first. Mind private property and park hours.

KAYAK

Protected launches; avoid big main-lake chop on windy CT afternoons. Target edges you can cover without long crossings.

BOAT

Idle zones and no-wake rules. Use electronics to mark bait; stay off blast-off lanes if a trail event appears later in Looking ahead.

Tactics (Smallmouth bass): Current breaks, rock, and wood. Tubes, Ned rigs, small swimbaits, and topwater in low light.

● ETHANOL-FREE FUEL NEAR THIS WATER

PURE-GAS.ORG E0 · NEAR THIS WATER

Source: [Pure-Gas.org](https://pure-gas.org)check timestamp **Sun Sep 20, 2026 · ~8:45 PM CT**. Re-pull live listings before you fill.

Current prices may change — verify at the pump. Direct production pass: station dollars not fully matched this pull; do not invent prices.

Search Pure-Gas.org for **Minnesota** near **Stillwater reach** — list 2–4 closest E0 stations on-site before launchprice not listed here — verify at pump

Disclaimer: listings change; not an endorsement. No GasBuddy station identity as source of record.

● LURE BOX — TOP / MID / BOTTOM

TOP

Walking bait / popper / buzz — calm low light when bait is up.

MID

Spinnerbait, crank, or swimbait matching forage profile in the stain you see at the ramp.

BOTTOM

Jig, Ned, or live-bait presentation for Smallmouth bass on contact cover.

Match the hatch: size down if water is clear; chartreuse/bright if stained.

● LIFE STAGE + WHAT'S ON THE MENU

Early fall transition for Smallmouth bass on St. Croix River (MN). Fish are following forage toward creeks, points, and wind-blown banks as nights cool.

What's on the menu: Most likely baitfish (shad/perch/cisco depending on latitude) and crawfish on rock — framed as seasonal likelihood; no dated hatch report pulled this pass. Re-check local DNR notes if you need a tighter forage call.

- **ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON**

Panfish and channel catfish on soft current; trout only where stocked/special regs apply — verify MDC/MN DNR.

Looking ahead (1–3 weeks): Cooler September nights should keep the early-fall migration story alive into early October. **Heavy traffic:** no named trail event confirmed for Mon–Thu this window in this direct pass — re-check local tournament calendars before the weekend. Schedules change.

Sources: NWS (re-check point forecast), USGS/USACE agency pages as applicable, Minnesota DNR/MDC regs (live link — do not hardcode slots), Pure-Gas.org. Freshwater Cast · MN · drafted Sun Sep 20, 2026 evening CT under overnight production. Numbers not invented — re-pull live boards before launch.