



MISSISSIPPI · MONDAY **CAST** · MON SEP 28 – WED SEP 30

Arkabutla Lake

Largemouth primary · Coldwater River · CT

Arkabutla sits under sunny North Mississippi heat this midweek, so grass, timber, and shade still outfish any fantasy cold front. Pack sunscreen, check the USACE board before you trailer, and fish the first light on the outside grass line before the glare locks in.

● WEEKEND OUTLOOK

NWS Memphis (MEG) corridor for the north Mississippi band, forecast pulled Fri morning Oct 2 CT off the locked weather-band pin. Fish grass and timber at first light Friday while it is still hot, then lean on pre-storm and post-cell windows Saturday–Sunday as chances climb.

Match daily cards below to the water in front of you — storm edges in the Mississippi bands, cool rock bites up north, and fair dry air across most of Missouri after Friday.

Friday Oct 2

91° Partly Sunny then Slight Chance Showers And Thunderstorms · wind 5 mph S · rain chance ~28% · overnight ~68° Slight Chance Showers And Thunderstorms (night rain ~26%).

Still hot near 90°. Open shallow cover early; keep a rain shell for a late cell. Midday shade and thicker grass matter more than long runs.

Saturday Oct 3

86° Chance Showers And Thunderstorms · wind 5 mph NE · rain chance ~34% · overnight ~68° Chance Showers And Thunderstorms (night rain ~50%).

Storm chances rise. Cover wind-blown points and grass edges before cells, then fish freshly oxygenated edges after they pass. Leave the lake for lightning.

Sunday Oct 4

80° Showers And Thunderstorms Likely · wind 5 to 10 mph NE · rain chance ~59% · overnight ~61° Chance Showers And Thunderstorms (night rain ~48%).

Cooler and wetter. Short, decisive storm-edge moves beat grinding under a black sky.
Protected coves and bank access beat open-water runs in lightning.

● LEVEL & FLOW CHEAT SHEET

Arkabutla is a USACE Vicksburg District flood-control lake. Pool and outflow move with district operations — verify again the USACE Arkabutla page and ramp boards before launch. Soft bite note: holding pool keeps grass and timber honest; if outflow rises or pool drops, slide toward the first hard bottom outside cover and any fresher stained edges.

Failover before you launch: USACE Vicksburg Arkabutla lake page and local ramp boards.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

Bank

Arkabutla State Park shores, the spillway recreation area, and Hernando Point-side public banks give walkable riprap, piers, and grass without a trailer. Work first light along the outside grass and spillway riprap with a weightless stick worm or buzzbait when bait is topping. Midday, fish shaded park piers straight down the pilings, then fan casts along any rock that holds crawfish. Step back from busy recreation cuts when ski wakes start rolling the bank, and watch soft footing after any overnight shower.

Kayak

Launch from quieter cove ramps and paddle into timber pockets and grass holes that runabouts skim past on the main basin. A kayak lets you sit inside flooded timber and skip a soft plastic under shade without spooking the whole pocket. Pack a short stake-out pole for windless midday heat so you can hold on one clump. Wear a PFD whenever you leave the bank, and stay out of the widest open-water ski lanes once the afternoon breeze and traffic build.

Boat

USACE and park ramps around Arkabutla put you on grass points and standing timber quickly. Graph the first break outside the grass for bait, then idle shallow and cast to points, timber edges, and any island tip that throws shade. On hot sunny days, commit to shade lines by late morning rather than burning fuel across the open basin at noon. Keep life jackets on when you run between arms — recreation traffic builds fast after mid-morning.

● LURE BOX

Top

Buzzbait at dawn; frog in thick grass under sun; walking bait if shad dimple points.

Mid

Stick worm in grass lanes; squarebill on timber/riprap; spinnerbait on breeze.

Bottom

Texas craw in timber; shaky head outside grass; jig on riprap.

● BASS LIFE STAGE

Post-summer largemouth on a flood-control pool — shallow cover and shade under high sun.

What's on the menu

Shad on points, bluegill in grass, crawfish on riprap. Match the bait and birds you mark.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

Crappie on brush; bream in coves; catfish near spillway cuts after dark.

Heavy Traffic: Recreation traffic rises after mid-morning on sunny days. Dawn quieter; midday secondary coves. No tournament claim this window.

Looking ahead: First cool October nights should stack fish on the outside grass line. Until then, late-summer shade.

Practical craft for Arkabutla Lake this Mon–Wed window: pick one primary pattern for the morning that matches how you launch — bank shade, kayak pockets, or boat structure — and give it a full honest hour before you abandon it for a long run. early October fish under this weather rarely need you to burn half a tank looking for a miracle pocket. When the graph shows bait, stay on it. When a bank or dock row is stacked, slide to the next named pocket with the same depth and wind angle instead of fighting the crowd. Safety sits beside the bite: life jackets for any run, lightning means shore, and busy recreation lanes get space. Verify again level and stage sources the morning you launch. Keep Largemouth primary as the lead plan; secondary fish are bonuses. If clouds thicken late Wednesday, treat the front edge as a short bonus window on the same cover you fished at dawn. Arrive early enough to trailer before the main recreation push, and fish the weather overhead rather than the pattern you wish you had.

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● **PURE-GAS.ORG E0 · THIS WATER**

Ethanol-free stations near this water (reused listing; stations only — no prices). Confirm hours and pump labels on site.

- 51 Market — 320 Wheeler Rd, Hernando, MS · ~7.5 mi · CITGO · 87 octane E0
- Time Sqyare Market — 2480 Hwy 51 S, Hernando, MS · ~8.7 mi · UNBRANDED · 87 octane E0
- Alex 3 — 3484 Hwy 4 W, Sarah, MS · ~10.1 mi · DEE'S OIL · 87 octane E0 (listing: tested ethanol free)
- Wayne's Quick Stop — 731 Pleasant Hill Rd, Nesbit, MS · ~11.6 mi · UNBRANDED · 87 octane E0

Sources: NWS Memphis forecast · USACE Arkabutla · Pure-Gas.org (reused) · MDWFP access notes.

