



**FRESHWATER
CAST**
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FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY **CAST** NEW JERSEY

Merrill Creek Reservoir: Late-Sep Largemouth Bass Midweek Plan

Monday Sep 21 – Thursday Sep 24, 2026 · Merrill Creek Reservoir · bank, kayak & boat · times in **ET**

No named trail event pulled for Mon–Thu window

NWS Mon–Thu thin — re-check

Primary: largemouth bass

Weekday soft recreational pressure

Late September on Merrill Creek Reservoir — lead with largemouth bass while the Mon–Thu window still moves fish, and keep midweek NWS NWS sky in the plan.

• MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

NWS NWS near Merrill Creek Reservoir (pulled Sun Sep 20, 2026 · 9:48 PM ET). Pattern for the Monday **Cast** window (all clock times **ET**): see day cards. Soft weekday recreational pressure. **No named trail event pulled for Mon–Thu window.** Looking ahead 1–3 weeks: no additional sourced trail event confirmed at gather — re-check state/club calendars.

Barometer / clarity: METAR baro not bound this run — STATUS THIN. Clarity qualitative only for late Sep; expect clearer main lake / stained after rain in creeks.

Pattern: NJFW Lunker Bass 2026; Warren Co. trophy

MONDAY

NWS day period thin — re-check before launch.

TUESDAY

NWS day period thin — re-check before launch.

WEDNESDAY

NWS day period thin — re-check before launch.

THURSDAY

NWS day period thin — re-check before launch.

● DAM & CURRENT / LEVELS CHEAT SHEET

NWS THIN/FAIL: E0 prices: not listed — verify at pump Hydrology/levels THIN — re-check agency boards Lake/river levels and any hydro schedule: **THIN at gather** — re-check USGS / state agency / dam boards before launch. Do not invent pool elevations or generation unit counts.

Say **Generator schedule** when hydro applies (e.g. Connecticut River). Re-check before launch.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Dawn/dusk on points, rock, and shade for **largemouth bass**

Skip blast-off lanes on weekends; weekdays softer

Public ramps/parks — live-check access hours

KAYAK

Windward protected coves if midweek breeze builds

Work transitions: weed-to-rock, channel swings

PFD on; cold mornings possible late Sep in north NH

BOAT

Idle zones / no-wake near docks and marinas

Electronics on bait schools for primary **largemouth bass**

Re-check wind before open-water runs

● ETHANOL-FREE FUEL NEAR THIS WATER

Wawa #8032 — 631 S 25th St, Easton, PA · ~8.5 mi · 89 octane E0price not listed — verify at pump610-252-4152[Pure-Gas](#)

Wawa #8046 — 3820 Easton Nazareth Highway, Easton, PA · ~9.9 mi · 89 octane E0price not listed — verify at pump610-759-1070[Pure-Gas](#)

Wawa #8043 — 4089 Jandy Blvd, Nazareth, PA · ~11.0 mi · 89 octane E0price not listed — verify at pump610-988-6009[Pure-Gas](#)

Reimer Brothers Inc. — 1111 Blue Valley Drive, Pen Argyl, PA · ~12.0 mi · 87 octane E0price not listed — verify at pump610-863-4105[Pure-Gas](#)

Listed E0 stations as of Sun Sep 20, 2026 · 9:48 PM ET from [Pure-Gas.org](#) (crowdsourced). Pump prices not confirmed at gather — may change; verify at the pump. Call ahead. Distances rough to this water.

● LURE BOX — TOP / MID / BOTTOM

TOP

Walking bait / popper at low light

Buzzbait on cloudy edges

Small topwater matching forage profile

MID

Soft jerk / fluke (natural)

Spinnerbait if stain after rain

Small swimbait / underspin for baitfish

BOTTOM

Ned / drop-shot finesse

Jig / soft craw on rock

Football / shaky for deeper largemouth bass

Stain/clear: Prefer natural/smoke/green in clear; chartreuse if stained after cells. Match What's on the menu.

● PRIMARY LIFE STAGE + WHAT'S ON THE MENU

Primary species this week: largemouth bass — NJFW Lunker Bass 2026; Warren Co. trophy

What's on the menu (dated hatch thin — most likely late Sep): shad/alewife; craw. Match size/profile; do not invent a specific hatch.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

- **smallmouth bass** — short in-season note; live-check regs
- **walleye** — short in-season note; live-check regs

Regs: live-link only — NHFG Fish & Wildlife / NJDEP Fish & Wildlife. Do not hardcode lengths.

● LOOKING AHEAD

Next 1–3 weeks: cooling nights may sharpen early-fall feel. **Heavy Traffic:** no named trail event sourced for Mon–Thu; re-pull calendars for next weekend. Levels/boards change — re-check before launch.

Sources: NWS api.weather.gov (NWS) Sun Sep 20, 2026 · 9:48 PM ET; Pure-Gas.org E0 Sun Sep 20, 2026 · 9:48 PM ET; this water from locked nh-bass/nj-bass cast-pins. Hydrology THIN this gather. Schedules change — re-check before launch.

Freshwater Cast · Monday **Cast** · Drafted Sun Sep 20, 2026 · 8:48 PM CT