



FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST · NEW YORK

Cayuga Cast

Cayuga Lake · Mon Sep 21 – Thu Sep 24, 2026 · bank / kayak / boat · times ET

Finger Lakes

Times ET

Heavy Traffic: none pulled

Cayuga's clear Finger Lakes water still rewards rock smallmouth and dock-and-weed largemouth as September nights cool — pick a mode and fish it thoroughly.

• MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

National Weather Service BGM · Aurora — forecast gathered Sunday evening, Sep 20, 2026. All clock times below are **ET**.

Late September pattern from the BGM grid near Aurora. **Monday:** near 61°F, Mostly Cloudy, wind N 9 mph. **Tuesday:** near 64°F, Slight Chance Rain Showers then Mostly Cloudy, wind NE 2 to 7 mph. **Wednesday:** near 64°F, Mostly Sunny, wind E 3 to 8 mph. **Thursday:** near 64°F, Partly Sunny, wind E 6 mph. Conditions can shift hour to hour — use the day cards as your planning spine and re-check the morning of your trip.

WINDOW

Mon–Thu

through Thursday evening ET

PRIMARY SPECIES

Smallmouth and largemouth (Finger Lakes mixed fishery)

CROWD / HEAVY TRAFFIC

No named trail event pulled for Monday through Thursday. Soft weekday recreational pressure on a popular Finger Lake.

MONDAY

High near **61°F** · Mostly Cloudy · ~0% storm/
precip chance

Wind N 9 mph

Mostly cloudy, with a high near 61. North wind
around 9 mph.

Local clock times **ET**

TUESDAY

High near **64°F** · Slight Chance Rain Showers
then Mostly Cloudy · ~16% storm/precip
chance

Wind NE 2 to 7 mph

A slight chance of rain showers before 7am.
Mostly cloudy, with a high near 64. Northeast
wind 2 to 7 mph. Chance of precipitation is
20%. New rainfall amounts less than a tenth of
an inch possible.

Local clock times **ET**

WEDNESDAY

High near **64°F** · Mostly Sunny · ~6% storm/
precip chance

Wind E 3 to 8 mph

Mostly sunny, with a high near 64.

Local clock times **ET**

THURSDAY

High near **64°F** · Partly Sunny · ~6% storm/
precip chance

Wind E 6 mph

Partly sunny, with a high near 64.

Local clock times **ET**

● DAM & CURRENT CHEAT SHEET

Cayuga Lake — Finger Lakes natural lake. There is no dam or generator schedule for this product.

CLARITY

Clear water favors finesse and longer casts.

WIND

North-south fetch can end a bank or kayak plan — keep a lee shore option.

ACCESS

Use public launches and parks; respect private shoreline.

STATUS: no dam board by design.

Schedules change — verify dam boards before you go.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Public parks and shoreline access on Cayuga favor anglers who fish docks, weed edges, and nearshore rock without crowding private property. Morning and evening are the bank windows; midday clear sunshine often pushes fish a cast deeper. Pack a weightless worm for docks and a compact tube for rock so you can change modes without walking back to the truck. Keep casts long in clear water and give other anglers room at busy parks.

KAYAK

Kayaks cover weed lines, points, and dock rows efficiently when the lake is calm. Stay close enough to shore to manage wind, and avoid long mid-lake crossings when Cayuga's fetch builds. Fish the first depth change you can see or feel, then expand outward only after you have earned a couple of bites. A small graph helps, but disciplined casting along transitions matters more than gadget chasing.

BOAT

Boat anglers should graph rock and rubble for smallmouth and inspect grass and docks for largemouth before burning a tank of fuel. Clear water means longer casts and quieter approaches. If recreational traffic stacks on a popular ramp, shift to a secondary launch rather than fishing the circus. Deep trout water is a different trip — do not force it into this bass-forward Monday unless that is truly your plan.

● LURE BOX

TOP

Walking baits on calm weed edges and over shallow rock at dawn.

MID

Cranks and spinners along points and bait; swim jigs on grass edges.

BOTTOM

Dropshots and tubes for smallmouth; Texas-rigs for largemouth in weeds and wood.

Stain / clear match: Clarity unconfirmed this window. Lean natural colors on clearer water; darker craw if storms dirty backs.

● BASS LIFE STAGE

Early fall Finger Lakes transition — fish still summer-deep in places but beginning to respond to cooler nights on points and grass.

What's on the menu: Most likely alewife or shad-class bait plus crayfish on rock. Match profile; no dated hatch confirmed.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

ALSO IN SEASON

Lake trout and landlocked salmon live deeper in Cayuga — short note only if you are targeting them.

CROWD / HEAVY TRAFFIC

No named trail event pulled for Monday through Thursday. Soft weekday recreational pressure on a popular Finger Lake.

Regs live-link only: confirm live state freshwater creel & size limits.

Looking ahead (next 1–3 weeks): Cooling over the next one to three weeks should improve morning bites. Re-check local trail calendars.

ETHANOL-FREE FUEL NEAR THIS WATER

PURE-GAS.ORG E0 · THIS WATER

Source: [Pure-Gas.org](https://pure-gas.org) station identity · pulled **Sun Sep 20, 2026 evening**

Current prices — may change; verify at the pump. Station-specific pump prices were not confirmed at this gather for the Ithaca–Aurora / Cayuga Lake corridor. Do not invent a dollar amount. Prefer the ethanol-free / premium grade that matches the Pure-Gas listing when you find a station.

Pure-Gas.org search — Ithaca–Aurora / Cayuga Lake area · ethanol-free listings · **price not listed** — **verify at pump** · [Pure-Gas](https://pure-gas.org)

If you cannot confirm E0 at the pump, do not assume regular unleaded is ethanol-free.

Sources: National Weather Service forecast for the Cayuga Lake area pulled Sunday evening Sep 20, 2026; Pure-Gas.org for ethanol-free station identity; New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Finger Lakes freshwater context. Conditions change — verify dam boards before you go.

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