



FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST · NEW YORK

Chautauqua Cast

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

Two-basin

Times ET

Chautauqua inland week — fish weed edges first light before recreational traffic wakes the lake.

• MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

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

Late-September pattern from the National Weather Service for the Chautauqua / Jamestown corridor corridor. Treat day cards as the planning spine and re-check the morning of your trip. Barometer and lake effect can shift hour to hour.

WINDOW

Mon–Thu

through Thursday evening ET

PRIMARY SPECIES

Largemouth bass (primary);
smallmouth secondary

CROWD / HEAVY TRAFFIC

No named trail event pulled for Monday through Thursday. Soft weekday recreational pressure.

MONDAY

High near **64°F** · Mostly Cloudy · ~4% storm/precip chance

Wind NE 6 to 12 mph

Mostly cloudy, with a high near 64. Northeast wind 6 to 12 mph.

Local clock times **ET**

TUESDAY

High near **64°F** · Chance Rain Showers · ~29% storm/precip chance

Wind E 8 to 12 mph

A chance of rain showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 64. East wind 8 to 12 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Local clock times **ET**

WEDNESDAY

High near **63°F** · Slight Chance Rain Showers ·
~22% storm/precip chance

Wind E 7 to 12 mph

A slight chance of rain showers. Partly sunny,
with a high near 63. East wind 7 to 12 mph.
Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Local clock times **ET**

THURSDAY

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

Wind E 6 to 9 mph

A slight chance of rain showers before 8am.
Partly sunny, with a high near 64. East wind 6 to
9 mph.

Local clock times **ET**

● DAM & CURRENT CHEAT SHEET

NYSDEC / Chautauqua Lake — live level/flow thin at this gather where flagged. What matters Monday through Thursday is **wind, water level, and boat traffic**.

BOARDS

Re-check live boards before launch. Do not invent CFS or stage.

WIND

Fetches turn after mid-morning — plan lee shores.

ACCESS

DEC launches and parks — hours verify live.

Schedules change — verify dam boards before you go.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Shared: Hydrate; September mornings can start cool then warm. Restricted dam/lock zones off-limits. Chautauqua: Public parks, launches, and posted shoreline early/late. Weed edges and docks where legal. Access: NYSDEC freshwater boating access where posted.

KAYAK

Chautauqua: Weed pockets and lee shores before ski traffic; avoid main-lake rollers when wind stacks. PFD on.

BOAT

Plan: first light weed edges and points; midday deeper edges and humps; evening revisit shallow shade. Inland WNY — wind and weeds are the schedule.

● LURE BOX

TOP

Walking topwater (chrome / bone / white) at dawn

Popper on bait dimples

Buzzbait over calm weed edges

MID

Spinnerbait (white / chartreuse shad)

Medium diving crank or swimbait (shad)

Lipless along weed edges / points

BOTTOM

Tube or ned (green pumpkin / smoke)

Drop-shot or shaky

Football or finesse jig (brown craw)

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

● BASS LIFE STAGE

Early-fall transition on western New York inland water. Largemouth relate to weeds; smallmouth on harder edges.

What's on the menu: Most likely baitfish and bluegill in weeds; craw on rock edges.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

MUSKIE · PIKE

Honest secondary in the same neighborhood — soft note.

PANFISH · WALLEYE

Soft secondary when schools show.

CROWD / HEAVY TRAFFIC

No named trail event pulled for Mon–Thu. Soft weekday recreational pressure.

Regs live-link only: NYSDEC freshwater creel & size limits (confirm live).

Looking ahead (next 1–3 weeks): Cooling nights next 1–3 weeks tighten fall patterns. Re-check agency boards and trail calendars. Next Cast: Friday window Fri–Sun.

ETHANOL-FREE FUEL NEAR THIS WATER

Current prices (as of Sun Sep 20, 2026 evening) — may change; verify at the pump.

Pure-Gas.org search — Chautauqua / Jamestown corridor · ethanol-free listings · price not listed — verify at pump

Listed E0 stations from Pure-Gas.org (crowdsourced). Call ahead — availability changes. If you cannot confirm E0 at the pump, do not assume regular unleaded is ethanol-free. Station-specific pump prices were not confirmed at this gather. Do not invent a dollar amount.

Sources: National Weather Service forecast for the Chautauqua / Jamestown corridor area pulled Sunday evening Sep 20, 2026; Pure-Gas.org for ethanol-free station identity; NYSDEC / Chautauqua Lake; New York State Department of Environmental Conservation freshwater guidance. Schedules and conditions change — verify dam boards before you go. Schedules change — verify boards before you go.

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