



FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST · NEW YORK

St. Lawrence / Thousand Islands Cast

St. Lawrence River · Thousand Islands (NY) · Mon Sep 21 – Thu Sep 24, 2026 · bank / kayak / boat · times ET

Primary: smallmouth

Times ET

Heavy Traffic: none pulled

The Thousand Islands smallmouth factory does not care that it is a weekday — fish current seams, rock, and bait with a box built for heavy brown fish, and treat wind and current as the real schedule.

• MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

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

Late September pattern from the BUF grid near Thousand Island Park. **Monday:** near 59°F, Partly Sunny, wind NE 8 mph. **Tuesday:** near 62°F, Sunny, wind NE 9 mph. **Wednesday:** near 65°F, Sunny, wind NE 7 mph. **Thursday:** near 66°F, Mostly Sunny, wind NE 3 to 7 mph. Barometer and lake effect can shift hour to hour on the Great Lakes and Finger Lakes — treat the day cards as the planning spine and re-check the morning of your trip.

WINDOW

Mon–Thu

through Thursday evening ET

PRIMARY SPECIES

Smallmouth bass (primary — world-class smallmouth fishery)

CROWD / HEAVY TRAFFIC

No named trail event pulled for Monday through Thursday. Soft weekday recreational pressure; residual weekend boat traffic possible around popular islands and ramps.

MONDAY

High near **59°F** · Partly Sunny · ~0% storm/precip chance

Wind NE 8 mph

Partly sunny, with a high near 59. Northeast wind around 8 mph.

Local clock times **ET**

TUESDAY

High near **62°F** · Sunny · ~1% storm/precip chance

Wind NE 9 mph

Sunny, with a high near 62. Northeast wind around 9 mph.

Local clock times **ET**

WEDNESDAY

High near **65°F** · Sunny · ~3% storm/precip chance

Wind NE 7 mph

Sunny, with a high near 65. Northeast wind around 7 mph.

Local clock times **ET**

THURSDAY

High near **66°F** · Mostly Sunny · ~2% storm/precip chance

Wind NE 3 to 7 mph

Mostly sunny, with a high near 66. Northeast wind 3 to 7 mph.

Local clock times **ET**

● DAM & CURRENT CHEAT SHEET

St. Lawrence River / Thousand Islands (New York) — international river fishery managed with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation context. There is no classic reservoir generator board for this product. What matters Monday through Thursday is **current, wind, and boat traffic**.

CURRENT & LEVEL

Live flow and stage were thin at this gather — re-check USGS / seaway-related boards before launch. Do not invent cubic feet per second.

WIND & SEAS

Island fetches can turn a calm morning into a white-cap afternoon. Plan lee shores before you leave the ramp.

ACCESS NOTE

Stay on the New York side for this Cast product; Canadian water is a different license story.

STATUS: flow/level numbers thin at gather.

Schedules change — verify dam boards before you go.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Bank access along the Thousand Islands corridor is limited compared with the boat fishery, so treat every honest public ramp, park shoreline, and safe rocky point as high-value. Fish first and last light when current is readable and recreational traffic is lighter. Stay clear of private docks and watch your footing on wet limestone. A compact smallmouth box — tubes, ned rigs, and a small walking bait — covers most bank casts without forcing you into unsafe water.

KAYAK

Kayaks belong in protected pockets, lee shores, and quieter channels — not in the middle of main-stem current when the wind stacks against flow. Launch from known public access, wear a PFD, and plan exits before you commit to a long island hop. Target current seams behind points, rock transitions, and bait that shows on a simple graph or by bird activity. If the main river turns ugly, collapse back into a bay and keep casting rather than fighting the seaway.

BOAT

Boat anglers should graph rock piles, shoals, and current seams, then rotate baits until the smallmouth tell you the depth. Idle legally near restricted zones and respect commercial traffic. When the wind lays down, cover water with a crank or spinner; when it stands up, slow down with a dropshot, tube, or football jig on the protected side of structure. Bring a backup plan for a nearby lee island if the open river becomes unsafe mid-day.

● LURE BOX

TOP

A compact walking bait or small popper over calm pockets and bait-breaking rock at dawn. Natural and bone colors when the water is clear; chartreuse flash if the sky is heavy.

MID

Small crankbaits and spinnerbaits burned along rock transitions and current breaks. Match baitfish profile; keep a quieter mid-depth option for pressured fish.

BOTTOM

Tubes, ned rigs, dropshots, and football jigs are the Thousand Islands standard. Green pumpkin, smoke, and natural craw colors; pause longer than you think when current is soft.

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

● BASS LIFE STAGE

Late September is early fall for St. Lawrence smallmouth — fish are still relating to rock and bait schools, with overnight cooling starting to sharpen morning bites. Do not invent a spawn or a winter shutdown; fish the transition you can see.

What's on the menu: Most likely forage is a mix of gobies, crayfish, and open-water baitfish on rock and current seams. Match profile and retrieve; no dated hatch was confirmed at this gather.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

ALSO IN SEASON

Northern pike and muskie show up in the same neighborhood — short note only if you are willing to trade casts. Panfish are present but not the Monday story here.

CROWD / HEAVY TRAFFIC

No named trail event pulled for Monday through Thursday. Soft weekday recreational pressure; residual weekend boat traffic possible around popular islands and ramps.

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

Looking ahead (next 1–3 weeks): Watch the next one to three weeks for cooling water and any announced trail events. Re-check marine and river conditions the morning you launch.

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 Thousand Islands / Clayton–Alexandria Bay 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 — Thousand Islands / Clayton–Alexandria Bay 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 Thousand Islands area pulled Sunday evening Sep 20, 2026; Pure-Gas.org for ethanol-free station identity; New York State Department of Environmental Conservation freshwater context. Schedules and conditions change — verify dam boards before you go.

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