



FRESHWATER CAST · FRIDAY CAST · PENNSYLVANIA

Allegheny–Kinzua: Friday Shower Edge, Crisp Sunny Saturday & Cool Partly Sunny Sunday

Allegheny Reservoir (Kinzua) · Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4, 2026 · bank / kayak / boat · times **ET**

Highs ~74° Fri → ~65° Sat → ~62° Sun (NWS BGM north band)

KAVP ~29.94 · KBFD ~29.93 · KERI ~29.96 inHg (Fri AM)

Pool 1326.93 ft · Kinzua Dam ~3,710 cfs (Fri AM)

Weekend recreational · no named trail event pulled Fri–Sun

Kinzua's big-water weekend opens with Friday showers and a meaningful dam release — treat current seams as the Bonus Round — then ride Saturday's crisp sunny cool-down when nights dip into the mid-40s and Allegheny rock finally feels like fall. Fish Willow Bay and Elijah Run at dawn before the main-lake chop builds.

● WEEKEND OUTLOOK

NWS Binghamton (BGM) grid for the northern Pennsylvania corridor covering this water this Cast window (BGM 89,38), pulled Friday morning, sets up a cooler early-October flip: one unsettled Friday, then a crisp dry cool-down. **Friday** runs mostly cloudy with a high near **74°F**, west wind 7–12 mph, and rain showers likely after about 1 PM ET (~62% chance; light totals). Overnight low near **47°F** with leftover shower chances early evening. **Saturday** turns sunny and fall-like — high near **65°F** / overnight low near **45°F**, light north wind around 6 mph, and dry (patchy fog possible Saturday night). **Sunday** stays cool near **62°F** under partly sunny skies, southeast wind 2–9 mph, and only a soft ~11% shower chance. No active NWS watches or warnings at the Friday-morning pull. Nearby METARs around 7:10 AM ET Friday: **KAVP ~29.94**, **KBFD ~29.93**, and **KERI ~29.96 inHg** — a firm high.

For black bass: protect Friday's first light before the shower risk builds after 1 PM, then lean into Saturday's cool, dry morning when nights in the mid-40s should pull bait and fish shallower on rock points and current-washed edges. Sunday's partly sunny cool look favors a steady grind

along seams if outflow stays elevated. Soft weekend recreational pressure expected at Willow Bay — **no named trail tournament pulled** for Fri–Sun on Allegheny Reservoir. PA-side focus for this Cast; New York shore is reciprocal awareness only.

FRIDAY OCT 2

~74°F

Low tonight ~47° · ~62% showers · W 7–12 mph

Mostly cloudy, then rain showers likely after 1 PM

Sunrise **7:14 AM** · Sunset **6:55 PM ET**

Best bite: first light—9:30 AM ET; midday shade structure; watch the afternoon shower edge

SATURDAY OCT 3

~65°F

Low ~45° · ~0% storms · N ~6 mph

Sunny · clean cool-down day

Sunrise **7:15 AM** · Sunset **6:53 PM ET**

Best bite: dawn through mid-morning on points and edges; midday transitions 6–16 ft

SUNDAY OCT 4

~62°F

Low ~51° · ~11% showers · SE 2–9 mph

Partly sunny · soft shower risk low

Sunrise **7:16 AM** · Sunset **6:52 PM ET**

Best bite: cool low-light windows; steady grind; protect any clear dawn pocket

BITE TIE-IN

Cool nights into the mid-40s plus Saturday's dry high = morning bass on rock points and current seams where bait marks, then a midday slide as the sun climbs. Friday's showers and ~3,710 cfs leaving Kinzua keep lower-lake edges honest; Sunday's cool light favors a tube or dropshot if fish slide deeper. Keep a swimbait ready when birds tip bait along main-lake walls.

● DAM & CURRENT / GENERATOR SCHEDULE CHEAT SHEET

Allegheny Reservoir is a USACE Pittsburgh District flood-control lake behind Kinzua Dam. Hydropower and release decisions are project-driven — there is **no public hour-by-hour unit board** for anglers. Live numbers below are USGS instantaneous values from the Friday-morning pull; schedules and releases can change without a friendly heads-up.

SOURCE	LIVE PULL (FRI OCT 2 MORNING ET)	WHAT IT MEANS THIS WEEKEND
Pool elevation USGS 03012520 Allegheny Reservoir near Warren, PA	1326.93 ft ~7:00 AM ET Oct 2	Live pool print puts shoreline rock and ramps in a workable early-October band — confirm the live USGS/USACE print before launch if levels matter to your ramp. No flood-pool story at this print.
Outflow / Kinzua Dam USGS 03012550 Allegheny River at Kinzua Dam, PA	~3,710 cfs · gage ~9.16 ft ~7:00 AM ET Oct 2	Meaningful release — expect moving water in the dam/tailwater reach and current-washed points nearer the lower reservoir. Confirm outflow before you bank on a dead-still morning near the dam face.
Inflow / Kinzua Creek USGS 03011800 Kinzua Creek near Guffey, PA	~27 cfs · gage ~2.39 ft ~7:00 AM ET Oct 2	Side-creek contribution is light — main-lake rock should fish relatively clear; creek arms may stain only if Friday showers dump locally.

Failover before launch: USACE Pittsburgh / Kinzua water pages · USGS 03012520 / 03012550 / 03011800 · USACE Allegheny Reservoir recreation info. Dam restricted zones stay off-limits. Soft current → bite only — strong outflow washes bait along breaks; quieter periods push fish tighter to rock, wood, and creek-channel swings.

LOWER RESERVOIR / DAM END

With ~3,710 cfs leaving the project, fish current seams, secondary points, and the first major creek mouths upstream of the dam face. Keep a safe buffer from restricted water. Smallmouth traffic often shows where bait stacks — especially Saturday morning after the cool night.

WILLOW BAY · ELIJAH RUN · MID-LAKE

Willow Bay, Elijah Run, and posted Roper Hollow arms fish a classic early-fall pattern: bait in the backs early, then sliding toward channel swings and rock walls as the sun climbs. Friday's showers favor covering stain lines; Saturday's sun favors rock transitions; Sunday's cool light can keep fish shallower longer on protected banks.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Shared: Friday's shower risk wants a light shell after midday; PFDs on wet rock; dam restricted zones stay off-limits. Start on the **Willow Bay** day-use and public shoreline before picnic traffic, then rotate to **Elijah Run** and posted **Roper Hollow** bank-access stretches where rock meets walking water. Saturday's cool, dry morning is the banker's best window — walk a shadowed rock bank with a tube or Ned at first light, then slow a dropshot or small swimbait along visible rock once the sun climbs. Sunday's cool partly sunny look favors covering water with a spinnerbait if wind puts a ripple on the bank.

KAYAK

Launch **Willow Bay** or **Elijah Run** for short paddles to rock points and creek-channel swings without a long open-water crossing. On calm Saturday mornings, work the lee side with a $\frac{3}{8}$ -oz chatterbait or tube, then slide a small swimbait through bait showers if birds tip schools. Friday's west wind and any shower chop — plus dam-end current — can rough the lower lake; hug protected arms and give big boats the main lanes after late morning.

BOAT

Willow Bay and the lower-reservoir corridor put you closest to classic fall transitions: main-lake points, rock walls, and current seams where bait pulls smallmouth. Idle the first hour on a topwater or waking bait along slicks — especially Saturday after the cool night — then slide to 8–20 ft on rock with a tube, jerkbait, or football jig as the sun climbs. Confirm USGS outflow if you plan the extreme lower lake; ~3,710 cfs still moves bait hard on those last points. Weekend recreational traffic builds by late morning even without a trail blast-off, so protect the dawn idle. PA-side launch focus for this Cast.

● LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait (bone / chrome) over slicks

Buzzbait on shaded banks

Popper at first light in calm pockets

MID

Suspending jerkbait (clear rock water)

$\frac{3}{8}$ – $\frac{1}{2}$ oz chatterbait (wind / stain)

3–4" swimbait on a jighead for bait schools

Spinnerbait (white/chart) under clouds

BOTTOM

Tube or Ned on rock transitions

Football or hybrid jig (green pumpkin / brown)

Dropshot when fish suspend off points

Texas-rig creature in wood and creek mouths

Stain / clear match: Darker profiles in creek mud after local showers; translucent smoke, shad, and green-pumpkin on clearer main-lake rock. Tie colors to baitfish and crawfish first.

● BASS LIFE STAGE

Early-fall transition on Allegheny Reservoir. Cooler nights into the mid-40s and Saturday's dry cool-down should pull **smallmouth** onto rock points and channel swings and keep **largemouth** honest around wood and creek-mouth edges. Fish are not on a winter deep stack yet — treat this as morning-shallow, midday-slide, with Friday's showers compressing dawn and current keeping lower-lake edges honest. Skip the spawn talk; that chapter is closed.

What's on the menu: Dated hatch reports for this exact window are thin. Most-likely forage this week is **shad-class baitfish and young panfish** wherever birds tip you off, with **crawfish** on rock once the sun climbs, and **bluegill** still around shallow wood. Start on baitfish imitators; keep a craw-colored tube ready for rock transitions midday.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

WALLEYE · MUSKIES

Allegheny's mixed-bag reputation holds when bait balls tighten — keep a trolled crank or soft swimbait ready on main-lake walls. Soft language only; confirm seasons and creel on the live PFBC page before you keep fish.

PANFISH · TROUT (TAILWATER AWARENESS)

Panfish matter on brush for mixed bags in the reservoir; tailwater trout traffic is a separate story below the dam — stay out of restricted water and confirm live regs. Same access rules as bass on the lake.

CROWD / HEAVY TRAFFIC

No named Tri-State Bass Circuit, PA B.A.S.S. Nation, or PSBA trail event pulled for **Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4** on Allegheny Reservoir. Expect normal weekend recreational and camping traffic at Willow Bay — earlier launch still beats the picnic crowd by late morning Saturday. PA-side product; New York reciprocal awareness.

Looking ahead (next 1–3 weeks): After Sunday's cool partly sunny look, NWS leans cooler and clearer early week (Monday high near 61°F, night in the upper 30s) — classic October mornings if nights stay crisp. Confirm Kinzua outflow before any midweek trip; releases can change. Next **Cast:** Monday window Mon–Wed.

PURE-GAS.ORG E0 · THIS WATER

Ethanol-free stations near the Warren / Kinzua corridor (no pump prices).

Kinzua Wolf Run Marina — Kinzua Wolf Run Marina, 250 Marina Ln, Warren, PA (Ethanol-free UNBRANDED 87)

Kwik Fill — Kwik Fill, 2016 Pennsylvania Ave E, Warren, PA (Ethanol-free KWIK FILL 91)

Kwik Fill — Kwik Fill, 1435 Market St, North Warren, PA (Ethanol-free KWIK FILL 91)

Kwik Fill — Kwik Fill, 2351 Market St, Warren, PA (Ethanol-free KWIK FILL 91)

Stations reused from Pure-Gas.org PA list for this water. Listings move — verify literal **E0** / ethanol-free grade at the pump. No pump prices in this **Cast**.

Sources: NWS Binghamton (BGM) grid BGM 89,38 for the northern Pennsylvania corridor covering Allegheny Reservoir · METAR KBFD / KAVP · USGS 03012520 pool, 03012550 Kinzua Dam, 03011800 Kinzua Creek · USACE Pittsburgh / Kinzua · Pure-Gas.org ethanol-free directory · PFBC (live regs). Confirm outflow and the forecast before launch.

Freshwater Cast · Friday **Cast** · Allegheny Reservoir (Kinzua) · Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4, 2026 · drafted Fri Oct 2 ~8:00 AM ET