



FRESHWATER CAST · FRIDAY CAST · PENNSYLVANIA

Shenango: Warm Friday Storm Edge, Crisp Dry Saturday & Soft Sunday Showers

Shenango River Lake · Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4, 2026 · bank / kayak / boat · times **ET**

Highs ~83° Fri → ~71° Sat → ~66° Sun (NWS PHI middle band)

KABE ~29.95 · KFKL ~29.94 · KPIT ~29.95 inHg (Fri AM)

Pool elev thin · Sharpsville ~190 cfs · Pymatuning Dam ~135 cfs

Weekend recreational · no named trail event pulled Fri–Sun

Shenango's stained reservoir weekend opens sticky — Friday near the low 80s with a late shower chance — then Saturday's sunny cool-down when nights dip near 50°F and PA-side wood finally feels like fall. Fish the recreation-area shores at dawn before weekend boat traffic; Ohio shore is awareness only for this Cast.

● WEEKEND OUTLOOK

NWS Mount Holly (PHI) grid for the middle Pennsylvania corridor covering this water this Cast window (PHI 29,118), pulled Friday morning, sets up an early-October flip: one sticky warm day, then a clean cool-down. **Friday** runs partly sunny with a high near **83°F**, west wind 0–10 mph, and a ~47% chance of rain showers after about 2 PM ET (under a tenth of an inch if they fire).

Overnight low near **52°F**. **Saturday** turns sunny and fall-like — high near **71°F** / overnight low near **50°F**, light northeast wind, and dry. **Sunday** cools to near **66°F** under mostly cloudy skies, east wind around 5 mph, and another ~42% shower chance after 2 PM (light). No active NWS watches or warnings at the Friday-morning pull. Nearby METARs around 7:10 AM ET Friday:

KABE ~29.95, KFKL ~29.94, KYNG ~29.94, and KPIT ~29.95 inHg — a firm high.

For black bass: protect Friday's first light before the heat and afternoon shower risk, then lean into Saturday's cool, dry morning when nights near 50°F should pull bait and fish shallower on wood, weed, and channel swings. Sunday's cooler, showery look favors a slower presentation and cloud-cover spinnerbait if rain stays light. Soft weekend recreational pressure expected — **no named trail tournament pulled** for Fri–Sun on Shenango. PA-side focus; Ohio reciprocal awareness.

FRIDAY OCT 2

~83°F

Low tonight ~52° · ~47% showers · W 0–10 mph
Partly sunny, then chance showers after 2 PM

Sunrise **7:19 AM** · Sunset **7:01 PM ET**

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

SATURDAY OCT 3

~71°F

Low ~50° · ~0% storms · NE 0–5 mph
Sunny · clean cool-down day

Sunrise **7:20 AM** · Sunset **6:59 PM ET**

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

SUNDAY OCT 4

~66°F

Low ~54° · ~42% showers · E ~5 mph
Mostly cloudy with soft shower chances after 2 PM

Sunrise **7:22 AM** · Sunset **6:58 PM ET**

Best bite: cloudy low-light windows; slow down if rain light; protect any clear dawn pocket

BITE TIE-IN

Cool nights near 50°F plus Saturday's dry high = morning bass on wood and weed edges where bait marks, then a midday slide as the sun climbs. Friday's heat compresses the dawn window; Sunday's clouds can stretch a spinnerbait or walking bait if showers stay soft. Keep a shad-profile soft bait ready when birds tip schools along the main lake.

● DAM & CURRENT / GENERATOR SCHEDULE CHEAT SHEET

Shenango River Lake is a USACE Pittsburgh District flood-control lake on the Shenango River below Pymatuning. There is **no public hour-by-hour unit board** for anglers. Pool elevation boards were **thin** on the Friday USGS pull — honest thin, then failover to the Sharpsville outflow gage and USACE recreation notices. Pair Sharpsville with the upstream Pymatuning Dam outflow (~135 cfs) for corridor context — both say quiet release, stained reservoir fishing.

SOURCE	LIVE PULL (FRI OCT 2 MORNING ET)	WHAT IT MEANS THIS WEEKEND
Outflow / Sharpsville USGS 03103500 Shenango River at Sharpsville, PA	~190 cfs · gage ~2.44 ft ~6:45 AM ET Oct 2	Modest release through the Sharpsville reach — not a flush. Expect soft current near the dam/outflow neighborhood; main-lake wood and weed still fish as a reservoir pattern.
Upstream Pymatuning Dam context USGS 03101500 Shenango River at Pymatuning Dam, PA	~135 cfs · gage ~4.96 ft ~6:45 AM ET Oct 2	Upstream corridor context stays quiet — the Shenango system is not pushing hard into the lake this window.
Pool elevation USACE / USGS Shenango pool elev board	Thin / not live on Friday-morning pull No instantaneous pool elev in the Friday USGS bundle	Treat shoreline wood and weed as normal early-October reservoir pool until USACE posts a live number. Confirm recreation-area ramp notices before launch.

Failover before launch: USGS 03103500 / 03101500 · USACE Pittsburgh / Shenango recreation info. Dam restricted zones stay off-limits. Soft current → bite only — modest outflow still washes bait along breaks; quieter periods push fish tighter to wood, weed, and channel swings.

DAM / SHARPSVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD

With ~190 cfs at Sharpsville, fish soft seams and the first major wood banks upstream of restricted water. Keep a safe buffer from the dam face. Largemouth traffic often shows where bait stacks along stained edges — especially Saturday morning after the cool night.

RECREATION-AREA SHORES · ARMS

PA recreation-area shores fish a classic early-fall stained-reservoir pattern: bait in the backs early, then sliding toward channel swings and thicker mats as the sun climbs. Friday's heat favors shade wood after 10 AM; Saturday's sun favors weed transitions; Sunday's clouds can keep fish shallower longer.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Shared: Friday's warm dawn still wants a light shell for the first hour; PFDs on any wet rock after showers; dam restricted zones stay off-limits. Start on posted **PA recreation-area** day-use shoreline before picnic traffic, then rotate to other posted public banks where wood and weed meet walking water. Saturday's cool, dry morning is the banker's best window — walk a shadowed bank with a buzzbait or spinnerbait at first light, then slow a black/blue creature or Texas-rig along visible timber once the sun climbs. Sunday's soft shower risk favors a spinnerbait along stained pockets if rain stays light.

KAYAK

Launch posted **PA recreation-area** ramps for short paddles to wood points and weed edges without a long open-water crossing. On calm Saturday mornings, work the lee side with a $\frac{3}{8}$ -oz chatterbait or squarebill, then slide a small swimbait through bait showers if birds tip schools. Friday's west breeze and Sunday's east wind can chop open water — hug protected arms and give big boats the main lanes after late morning.

BOAT

PA recreation-area ramps put you closest to classic fall transitions: main-lake wood, weed edges, and channel swings where bait pulls bass. Idle the first hour on a topwater or waking bait along slicks — especially Saturday after the cool night — then slide to 6–14 ft on wood transitions with a jig or Texas-rig as the sun climbs. Confirm USGS Sharpsville if you plan the dam end; ~190 cfs is modest but still moves bait on those last edges. 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

Buzzbait or popper on weed edges

Walking bait (bone / chart) over slicks

Popper at first light in calm pockets

MID

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

Spinnerbait (white/chart) under Sunday clouds

Squarebill along timber

3–4" swimbait on a jighead for bait schools

BOTTOM

Texas-rig creature in wood and weed

Football or hybrid jig (black/blue / green pumpkin)

Ned / soft stick on harder edges

Dropshot when fish suspend off points

Stain / clear match: Darker profiles suit Shenango's stained water; add chartreuse flash after showers. Tie colors to shad-class bait and crawfish first.

● BASS LIFE STAGE

Early-fall transition on Shenango River Lake. Cooler nights near 50°F and Saturday's dry cool-down should keep **largemouth** honest around wood, weed, and channel swings, with **smallmouth** possible on harder edges. Fish are not on a winter deep stack yet — treat this as morning-shallow, midday-slide, with Friday's heat compressing dawn and Sunday's clouds stretching shallow activity. 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 harder edges once the sun climbs, and **bluegill** still around shallow wood. Start on shad imitators; keep a craw-colored jig ready for transitions midday.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

WALLEYE · MUSKIES

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

CRAPPIE · PANFISH

Crappie and panfish matter on brush for mixed bags, especially low light Saturday dawn and Sunday's cloudy first hour. Same access rules as bass — legal bank and ramp water only.

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 Shenango. Expect normal weekend recreational traffic on the PA shore — earlier launch still beats the picnic crowd by late morning Saturday. PA-side product; Ohio reciprocal awareness.

Looking ahead (next 1–3 weeks): After Sunday's soft showers, NWS leans cooler and clearer early week (Monday high near 68°F, night near 41°F) — classic October mornings if nights stay crisp. No named trail blast-off pulled on this water for the next weekend at Friday pull — confirm live calendars before you plan. Next **Cast:** Monday window Mon–Wed.

PURE-GAS.ORG E0 · THIS WATER

Ethanol-free stations near the Hermitage / Greenville / Jamestown corridor (no pump prices).

Sheetz — Sheetz, 1650 N Hermitage Rd, Hermitage, PA (Ethanol-free SHEETZ 90)

Circle K — Circle K, 470 North Buhl Farm Dr, Hermitage, PA (Ethanol-free CIRCLE K 90)

Country Fair — Country Fair, 14 Hadley Rd., Greenville, PA (Ethanol-free CITGO 91)

B P Station — B P Station, 111 Liberty St, Jamestown, PA (Ethanol-free BP 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 Mount Holly (PHI) grid PHI 29,118 for the middle Pennsylvania corridor covering Shenango · METAR KYNG / KFKL / KPIT · USGS 03103500 Sharpsville, 03101500 Pymatuning Dam · USACE Pittsburgh / Shenango · Pure-Gas.org ethanol-free directory · PFBC (live regs). Confirm outflow and the forecast before launch.

Freshwater Cast · Friday **Cast** · Shenango River Lake · Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4, 2026 · drafted Fri Oct 2 ~8:00 AM ET