



Photos by Amanda Saueressig

The McClusky Job Development Authority lit up the sky with the annual fireworks show for the Fourth of July!

McClusky fireworks show lights up the sky despite a few surprises

Annual JDA-sponsored event draws strong crowd, continues community tradition

BY KELLI AMELING
Associate Publisher

A few unexpected fireworks may have kept organizers on their toes, but the annual Independence Day fireworks show in McClusky once again delivered an evening of entertainment for residents and visitors alike.

The display, organized by the McClusky Job Development Authority, began around sundown on July 4 and lasted until approximately 11 p.m., providing more than an hour of fireworks for a crowd that included more than 20 vehicles and numerous side-by-sides gathered to watch the show.

According to McClusky Auditor Amanda Saueressig,

the annual display continues to be one of the community's most anticipated summer traditions.

"It's something the whole town looks forward to, and we will continue to do so as long as the support is there," Saueressig said.

The fireworks were launched by a volunteer crew that included JDA member Bryon Belile, City Council member Lee Wahl and Nathan Rhoads, head of city maintenance.

While the evening went smoothly overall, organizers had a couple of tense moments.

"There were only a few hiccups," Saueressig said.

One firework unexpectedly shot underneath Belile's vehicle during the show. Fortunately, newly elected Mayor Samantha Roubal, who also serves as

the community's fire chief, quickly extinguished the small fire before any damage occurred.

Another firework escaped from the trailer being used for the display and sent sparks in an unintended direction, drawing the attention of those nearby.

"It apparently had a mind of its own," Saueressig said.

Despite the excitement, no injuries were reported and the show continued without further incident.

The fireworks display has become a longstanding tradition for the JDA, which has organized the event annually since 2020. Support for the show comes in part through the organization's community fire-

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McClusky water meets federal safety standards, annual report shows

Consumer confidence report finds no health-related violations; city addresses chlorine monitoring issue

BY KELLI AMELING
Associate Publisher

McClusky residents can continue to have confidence in the safety of their drinking water, according to the city's 2025 Consumer Confidence Report, which found that all tested contaminants remained below federal drinking water standards.

The annual report, which can be found on the city's website, was released as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act, provides residents with information about the source and quality of the community's drinking water. The City of McClusky purchases its water from the McLean Sheridan Water District, System

I. Officials said they remain committed to protecting water quality and keeping residents informed about the system.

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality has classified McClusky's water source as "moderately susceptible" to potential contamination. However, the report notes that no significant sources of contamination have been identified.

Water testing conducted throughout 2025 found contaminant levels well below federal action limits and maximum contaminant levels. Lead testing showed a 90th percentile concentration of 2.32 parts per billion, significantly below the federal action level of 15 parts per billion, with no sites exceeding allowable limits.

Copper testing also remained well below regulatory thresholds.

The report also showed low levels of naturally occurring substances such as arsenic, barium, fluoride, selenium and nitrates, all within federal standards. Radioactive contaminants including uranium, radium and gross alpha particles were detected at levels substantially below regulatory limits.

Testing of disinfection byproducts, which can form during water treatment, also produced results far below federal standards. Total trihalomethanes, commonly known as TTHMs, measured 23

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