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## Barry County Road Commission honored with two statewide IMPRESS awards!

LANSING, MI – The Barry County Road Commission (BCRC) received a statewide IMPRESS Award and a People's Choice Award at the 2023 County Road Association (CRA) Highway Conference held March 22 in Lansing. IMPRESS Awards recognize county road agencies that demonstrate innovation on notable projects in the categories of Communications, Operations and Collaboration.



This year, BCRC received an IMPRESS award in Operations for its "BCRC Tree Removal Program" project.

In 2018, BCRC began a project to remove dangerous trees in the right-of-way. BCRC estimated 22,000 to 25,000 dead trees were obstructing roads throughout the county and started working in one township. The project became an ongoing process to remove all dangerous trees, limbs and branches obstructing the right-of-way in Barry's 16 townships. Work has been completed in nine townships. This entry also won a People's Choice Award in 2023.

"The Barry County Road Commission took on a very ambitious project," said Denise Donohue, CRA CEO. "The years of dedication to this tree removal project to protect public safety is reflected in BCRC's continued success."

An independent panel of communications and operations experts from several of Michigan's 83 county road agencies judged all IMPRESS Awards submissions. Award recipients were honored for projects that solved time constraints, labor costs, communication barriers and fostered collaboration.

The 83 members of the County Road Association of Michigan represent the unified voice for a safe and efficient county transportation infrastructure system in Michigan, including appropriate stewardship of the public's right-of-way in rural and urban Michigan. Collectively, Michigan's county road agencies manage 75% of all roads in the state, including 90,000 miles of roads and 5,700 bridges. County road agencies also maintain the state's highway system in 63 counties. Michigan has the nation's fourth-largest local road system.

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