



*"Our mission is to upgrade and maintain
a safe and efficient road system"*

TO: Essential/Emergency Services and News Media
FROM: Grand Traverse County Road Commission
DATE: July 10, 2023
SUBJECT: REMOVAL OF ROADKILL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Grand Traverse County Road Commission Celebrates New Exemption Allowing Removal of Roadkill

Traverse City, Michigan, July 10th 2023 – The Grand Traverse County Road Commission is delighted to announce a significant development in our ongoing commitment to public safety and the enhancement of our roadways. Thanks to the efforts of our county and state officials, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Road Commissions have been granted an exemption that allows GTCRC to resume managing roadkill in the public road right-of-way. This long-awaited decision will greatly contribute to maintaining the safety and well-being of our community.

Previously, Road Commissions statewide faced legal restrictions and concerns over fines and citations when attempting to manage large carcasses, such as deer, on public roadways. The safety hazards posed by roadkill were a growing concern for motorists, pedestrians, and property owners. We deeply appreciate the attention from EGLE and DNR in addressing this issue, allowing us again to take action and make a positive impact.

The newly recognized EGLE exemption, which originates from a 1988 exemption by the DNR, grants road commissions the ability to manage roadkill in a manner similar to what was acceptable in the past without violating the Solid Waste Management Act. This exemption acknowledges the importance of the courtesy public service conducted by road commissions, mitigating potential traffic hazards, and safeguarding the well-being of our residents and visitors.

The Grand Traverse County Road Commission remains steadfast in our mission to provide safe and efficient transportation infrastructure. We encourage the community to remain vigilant while driving and report roadkill sightings promptly via our online reporting tool at gtcrc.org or, if an emergency exists, to contact 911.

By working together, we can create safer roads and a better tomorrow for all.

For media inquiries, please contact:

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About the Grand Traverse County Road Commission:

The Grand Traverse County Road Commission is responsible for the maintenance, improvement, and development of the public road infrastructure within Grand Traverse County. Committed to enhancing public safety and ensuring efficient travel, we strive to create a transportation system that serves the needs of our community effectively.

When you see road workers, Drive like YOU work there!