

NORTHERN MICHIGAN BUILDING CENTERS & DESIGN SHOWROOMS

Two Centuries, One Future: Preston Feather and Barden Lumber Unite for Northern Michigan's Next Chapter

Two of Northern Michigan's most trusted names in building, Preston Feather and Barden Lumber, have come together in a move that honors a shared past while building a stronger future.

Preston Feather Building Centers, a family-owned company founded in 1915, has announced its acquisition of Barden Lumber, the Boyne City-based supplier that has served contractors and homeowners since 1922, effective October 4, 2025. Together, the companies bring more than 200 years of combined experience, relationships, and regional commitment to the building industry.

For both teams, this transition is not just about growth. It is about legacy, values, and a deep investment in community.

"This isn't about replacing a legacy, it's about carrying it forward," said Rachel Huntman, President and Owner of Preston Feather. "For over 103 years, Barden Lumber has remained under the stewardship of the same family, demonstrating resilience and enduring success across generations. They have always stood for people, relationships, and community. Those same values are at the heart of who we are, too."

For Paul Barden, fourth-generation President and Owner of Barden Lumber, the partnership is about continuity and intention. "When our family began thinking seriously about my retirement and the future of Barden Lumber, Preston Feather was my natural, first choice," Barden said. "We share the same values, vision, and commitment to this region as Preston Feather. It will also be an ideal fit for our employees and customers, who have been our top priority for this transition." To help make this transition as smooth as possible, Paul will remain actively involved during the integration period, ensuring continuity for customers, employees, and the community.

A Partnership Built on Shared Values

With the addition of Barden Lumber, Preston Feather now operates locations in Petoskey, Gaylord, Harbor Springs, Boyne City, and Traverse City. In 2024, the company was named LBM Journal's Dealer of the Year, recognized for blending long-standing tradition with forward-thinking service and innovation.

As part of its continued investment in Northern Michigan, Preston Feather is also doubling its operations in Traverse City with a new 30,000-square-foot distribution and logistics facility. This addition will strengthen supply chains and enhance service capabilities for customers across the region.

To longtime customers, this partnership feels like two trusted century-old neighbors joining together, united by shared values and a common dedication to Northern Michigan.

"At the end of the day, what sets us apart is our people, our values, and the relationships we've built in the communities we serve."

Learn more at prestonfeather.com