



# Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps

*Building a Pathway to the Preservation Trades*



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 21, 2017

## **Northern Bedrock works to preserve historic Semer's Park.**

Ely, MN – Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps (Northern Bedrock) is working with local stone mason, Mike Braun of Mike Braun Construction, Inc., to restore stone fire pits and grills and complete necessary maintenance on various stone buildings in Semer's Park. Braun worked with Northern Bedrock in 2016 to train crew members and restore a stone grill and fire pit. This year's project is a continuation of this work. Northern Bedrock's crew and Braun will be on site at Semer's Park starting Wednesday June 21<sup>st</sup> through June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

At its inception Semer's Park was referred to as "The Tourist Camp" or "The Tourist Park." The park was used as an overnight campground and had a 24-hour caretaker present. Three stone grills were built between 1938 and 1941, by the National Youth Administration (NYA) which was comprised of local Ely youth. This group created five stone fireplace grills, seven stone tables, a stone council ring, the foundation for a kitchen, and a bathhouse.

Mike Braun will teach Northern Bedrock's crew which is comprised of young adults 18-25 years old how to rebuild the remaining park grills and fire pits, as well as how to complete the necessary maintenance and repair of the stone buildings at Semer's Park. During this project crew members will develop historic preservation skills under the supervision and direction of Mike Braun and Northern Bedrock staff.

Semer's Park  
476 Shagawa Road North, Ely, MN 55731  
June 21-28, 2017 | 9:00am – 5:30pm

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### **About Northern Bedrock**

Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps was established in 2011 to meet two converging needs: an aging stock of historic structures and landscapes in need of maintenance and repair, and a growing need to create a pathway for young adults into the preservation trades workforce. Northern Bedrock utilizes a corps model and partners with trades professionals to provide young adults with hands on experience and training in the historic preservation trades. Our AmeriCorps program works with young adults, 18-25 years old, from across the region. Corpsmembers work at project sites across Minnesota and receive training in a variety of preservation areas over a six month field season. Northern Bedrock is a member of The Corps Network. Learn more about Northern Bedrock at [northernbedrockcorps.org](http://northernbedrockcorps.org)

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