

A HELPFUL GUIDE TO  
**PORTLAND  
STREET  
ARTIST  
RULES  
+ REGULATIONS**



# WHAT IS A STREET ARTIST?

A person on city property who is creating artwork or selling their own original artwork.

## DO I NEED A PERMIT OR LICENSE?

No. Unless you want to set up during a city-designated festival.

Street artists are required to follow rules and regulations for public safety and ease of commerce.

## WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A STREET ARTIST AND A STREET GOODS VENDOR?

A street goods vendor is not restricted to selling original artwork.

A street goods vendor can re-sell items purchased elsewhere. Street artists cannot.

A street goods vendor is only allowed to sell at a festival. A permit is required.

## CAN STREET ARTISTS SET UP ANYWHERE?

No. There are places that are off-limits.

## WHAT PLACES ARE OFF-LIMITS?

- + Any area that blocks vehicles or pedestrians from being able to move freely, jeopardizes safety, or otherwise inconveniences the public.
- + City-designated festivals, sidewalks sales, Farmer's Markets, or other city authorized festivals without permission of the festival organizer.
- + Any area that blocks an entrance or exit from private property.
- + Public school grounds without authorization as a school function.
- + Any area that does not allow four feet of pedestrian passage behind your customer.

## WHAT'S THE FOUR FOOT RULE?

Make sure that when you are sitting at your table and you have a customer, you leave four feet of open space to allow pedestrians to move freely behind the customer.

## WHAT ABOUT DISPLAYS?

The footprint of the artist's entire display, including rack, table, and chair cannot be greater than 12 square feet.

All displays need to be free-standing.

You cannot use benches, monuments, public structures or private property to display artwork.

No vending from blankets or the ground.

## OK, SO STREET ARTISTS CANNOT BE IN THE MONUMENT SQUARE FARMER'S MARKET BUT THEY CAN BE NEAR IT. WHAT ARE THOSE RULES?

There must be four feet of space between your customers and the closest farmer's set up.

Street artists can only be located within the sidewalk portion of Monument Square. This area is defined as the area between the edge of the buildings located on the square that house such businesses as David's and the Public Market House and the parallel row of light poles located approximately 15 feet from the building.

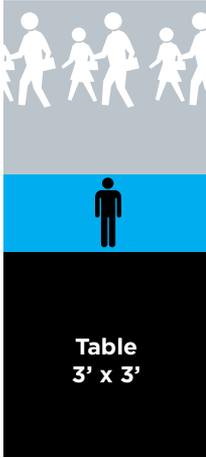
You cannot be in Monument Way or the side of Monument Square that abuts Federal Street.

## HOW ABOUT THE SATURDAY FARMER'S MARKET IN DEERING OAKS? CAN I SET UP THERE?

You can set up on the southerly side of the sidewalk that runs parallel to the southern edge of the Farmer's Market Road or at least five feet away from the edge of Jenny Lane and the northern edge of Farmer's Market Road.

# DISPLAYS

The footprint of the artist's entire display, including rack, table, and chair cannot be greater than 12 square feet. To calculate total square feet, multiply the length times the width.



Chair  
1' x 1'



## Example:

← Four feet of space for pedestrians

← Customer



12 Square Feet Includes:  
+ Artist  
+ Display rack/table  
+ Chair

Building

To view the official City of Portland Rules and Regulations for street artists see [portlandmaine.gov/voter/cityclerk2.asp](http://portlandmaine.gov/voter/cityclerk2.asp)

## QUESTIONS?

To report potential violations, call 207.874.8703 or email

[buildinginspections@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:buildinginspections@portlandmaine.gov)

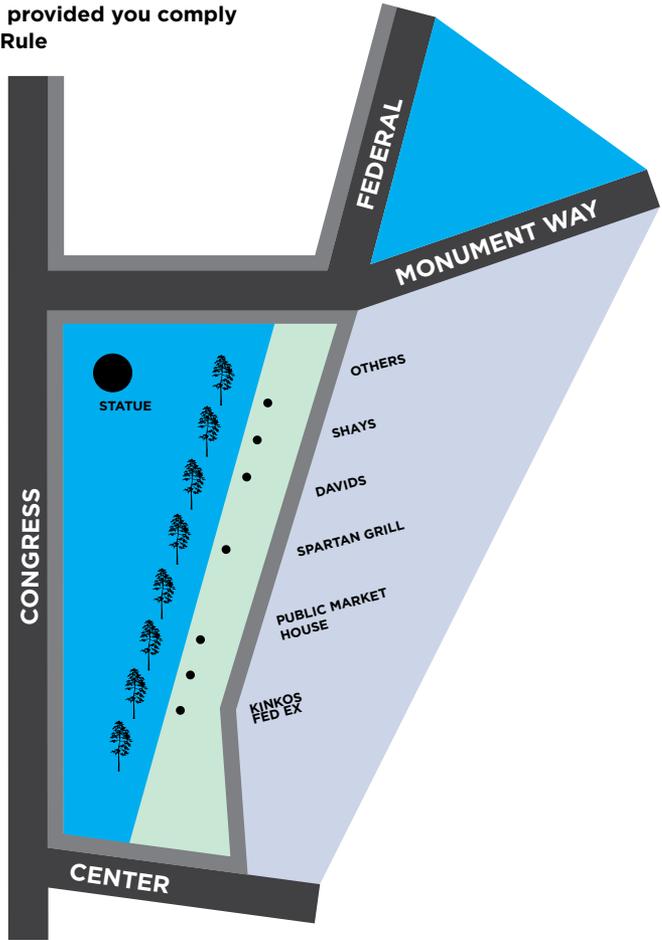
For questions about rules, contact the City Clerk office at **207.874.8557** or email [bl@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:bl@portlandmaine.gov)

# MONUMENT SQUARE

## FARMERS MARKETS DAYS

Please observe the Four Foot Rule between streetlamps and buildings

- Off-limits area
- Set-up is permitted provided you comply with the Four Foot Rule
- Sidewalk
- Streetlamps
- Buildings



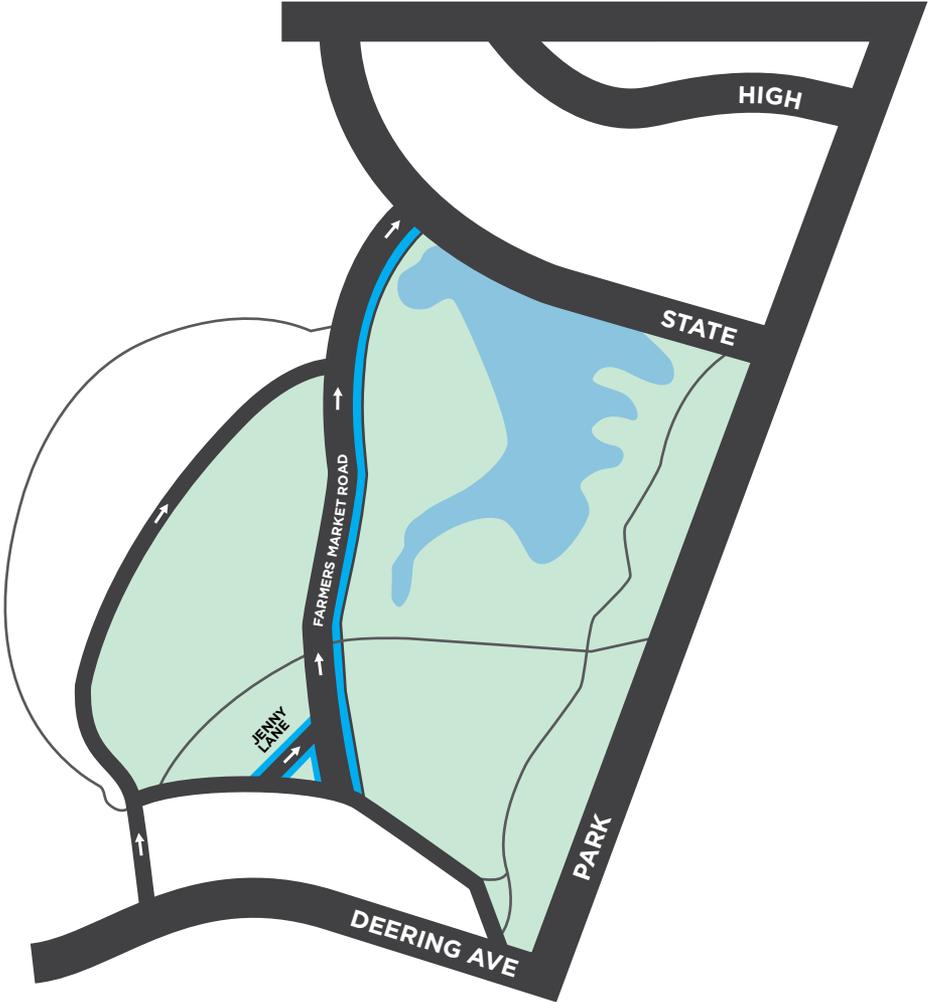
## NON-FARMERS MARKETS DAYS

The whole space is available while observing the Four Foot Rule

# DEERING OAKS PARK

 Off-limits area

 Set-up is permitted provided you comply with the Five Foot Rule



 For the Deering Oaks Farmer's Market the Four Foot Rule is five feet.

# BUOY PARK

- Off-limits area
- Set-up is permitted provided you comply with the Four Foot Rule
- Sidewalk

