

Image: Ray Mathews, Austin Tx, 2013

## Purple Coneflower Echinacea purpurea

- 2-4 ft tall, winter dormant perennial, native: NJ/eastern US
- Fragrant rosy-purple flowers bloom June to October
- Dry to average soil, sun to part shade
- Good rain garden plant
- Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, songbirds
- Host plant for Sunflower Moth and other caterpillars
- Tolerates heat, salt, drought, clay, occasional flooding
- Collect seeds August November when brown seed heads expand
- Shake dry seed heads in a bag to loosen seeds
- Store seeds cold and dry to maintain dormancy
- Press seeds into moist soil surface, in pots or garden soil
- Treat seeds 8 weeks moist at 40°F to break dormancy
- Move to 70°F with light to germinate