



Natural Resources Conservation Service

State Conservationist John Wilson

NRCS Ohio State Conservationist John Wilson has worked with the agency for 38 years. He began his USDA Soil Conservation Service (now NRCS) career in 1985 as a student trainee in Adrian, Michigan. His first career appointment was as a soil conservationist in Paw Paw, Michigan. He was selected to serve as a district conservationist in Pontiac, Michigan and later became an urban resource conservationist for southeast Michigan.

In 1998, John moved to the Ohio NRCS office, where he served as Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations in northwest Ohio for nine years. In 2007, he became the State Administrative Officer.

He acted as the National Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Officer in Washington, D. C. on two occasions and served as the acting state conservationist in Ohio in 2005 and 2021, as well as in Utah in 2011.

In 2014, John accepted the assistant state conservationist for programs position in Ohio. He provided leadership to the programs staff that administered the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Conservation Stewardship Program, Regional Conservation Partnership Program and the Conservation Innovative Grants program.

In June of 2021, John was selected as deputy state conservationist in Arkansas, and worked with the state conservationist to provide leadership in the day-to-day operations of the agency. During his time there, he also completed a detail assignment as acting state conservationist in Nebraska.

John is a native of Mississippi and graduate of Alcorn State University where he holds Bachelor of Science degrees in Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Education. John and his wife Carmala have two children.