

## Chief Terry Cosby

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NRCS Chief Terry Cosby began his career with the agency in 1979 as a student trainee in Iowa. Terry's roots run deep. Raised on a cotton farm with his eight siblings in Tallahatchie County, Mississippi, his love for the land began at an early age. The farm, now in his family for three generations, was purchased by his great-grandfather in the late 1800s.

Over Terry's 42 years with the agency, he has served in numerous capacities. He had been the State Conservationist for Ohio since 2005. Prior to serving as Ohio State Conservationist, he has served in leadership positions in Iowa as an

Area Resource Conservationist, in Missouri as an Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations and Idaho as a Deputy State Conservationist.

One of Terry's proudest achievements is the instrumental role he played in establishing the Ohio Interagency Forestry Team and in the formation of its governance model and business plan. Under his leadership, Ohio was the first state to use Environmental Quality Incentive Program funds for forestry practices. Today, he leads the NRCS Hiring Strategy initiative which will shape, guide and solidify NRCS as the premiere technical service agency for USDA conservation.

Terry and his wife Brenda are the proud parents of four wonderful children (one of whom was lovingly "adopted"). Today he continues to hunt and fish as much as possible and greatly enjoys spending time with his seven young grandchildren.

Link to bio: [Chief Terry Cosby | NRCS \(usda.gov\)](#)