

**Kevin D. Norton**  
**Acting Associate Chief**  
**USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**

Kevin Norton serves as the Acting Associate Chief for NRCS providing direct support to the Chief and oversight of the agency's programs, technology and administrative operations. Kevin is responsible for providing national direction and oversight for the agency's financial and technical assistance programs, management and strategy, science and technology, and soil science and resource assessment.

Prior to his role as Acting Associate Chief Kevin served as the NRCS State Conservationist in Louisiana since September 2007. As State Conservationist, Kevin was responsible for ensuring Louisiana's private landowners have access to services and programs designed to protect and enhance Louisiana's natural resources.

Kevin led a staff of over 200 employees dedicated to helping people help the land. Through Federal appropriations, the Natural Resources Conservation Service invests from \$70 million to over \$100 million annually in financial assistance to landowners in support of conservation of Louisiana's natural resources.

Beginning in September 2011, Kevin was detailed to the Senate Agriculture Committee to provide technical assistance for the conservation title of the Farm Bill. Kevin worked directly with Senate Ag Committee staff and regularly met with producer, conservation, and environmental organizations. After 29 months, the Agriculture Act of 2014 was signed into law bringing Kevin's detail to conclusion.

Kevin returned to Capitol Hill in March, 2018, through November, 2018, to provide technical assistance to the House Agriculture Committee in developing the conservation provisions for the 2018 Farm Bill. Similar to his earlier Hill detail, Kevin worked directly with the House Agriculture Committee staff and regularly met with producer, conservation, and environmental organizations.

In the 26 years prior to becoming State Conservationist in Louisiana, Kevin served in a number of positions with the NRCS at the field, area, and state levels.

Kevin was raised in south central Oklahoma in a diverse agricultural setting of irrigated peanuts, cotton, watermelons, small grains, and livestock. Following graduation from Oklahoma State University in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Rangeland Management, he began his career with NRCS as a Range Conservationist in Lawton, Oklahoma.

Kevin and his wife Cheri have four grown children and five grandchildren. Kevin enjoys taking his grandchildren fishing and spending as much time with them as possible.