

## Sharon Nance

*Assistant State Conservationist, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (retired)*



Sharon Nance retired from her position as Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations in Fresno, California. Her experiences in USDA and NRCS include working with the Civil Rights Division, Legislative Affairs Office, Programs, the Outreach Division and was the USDA StrikeForce Coordinator for eight western states. She began her career with USDA as California's Rural Sociologist working with the Central Valley's Southeast Asian fruit & vegetable producers. She has aided Tribal Nations with their "Seven Generation Plan" and was invited to conduct sociological observations in the Micronesian Islands. While serving as the California NRCS Environmental Justice Coordinator, she assisted EPA/EJ conduct Public Participation Stakeholder sessions throughout California. Over the last 15 years she has continued her work in Outreach, training NRCS staff to develop and lead Cadres on Extending Outreach to All Communities. Sharon is Past President of National Association of Black Natural Resource Conservation Service employees (ORG), and a life member of the American Indian & Alaskan Native Association of NRCS employees and Equality USDA. She has a bachelor's degree in psychology and earned a master's degree in education and her PhD in Rural Sociology & Agricultural Economics from The Ohio State University.