This is a special Sun-Earth Day ALERT:

The Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO) is scheduled to launch no earlier than **Tuesday, February 9,** from Cape Canaveral, FL, at 10:30 a.m.

SDO will provide a new eye on the sun that will deliver solar images with 10 times better resolution than high definition television. This 5-year mission will observe the sun from its deep interior to the outermost layers of the solar atmosphere at the highest ever time cadence. It will also snap a full disk image in 8 wavelengths every 10 seconds.

Now this rapid cadence led to placing the satellite into an inclined geosynchronous orbit. This allows for a continuous, high-data-rate contact with a dedicated ground station at the White Sands complex in southern New Mexico. SDO will send down about 1.5 terabytes of data per day, equivalent to downloading half a million songs each day.

Data from SDO will be made available to scientists and the public as soon as possible after it is received from the spacecraft.

To get the latest news on SDO and any available updates visit: or sdo.gsfc.nasa.gov