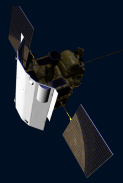
# How NASA Space Assets Will Observe Comet ISON

For more information, visit: http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/ison

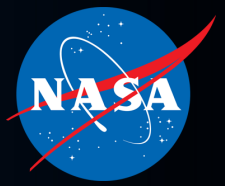
**Deep Impact** imaged ISON for the first time on January 17 and 18 from 493 million miles away



**MESSENGER** will be observing ISON as it passes by Mercury on November 19th on its way to the sun

**SOHO** will be observing ISON as it passes by the sun in late November

**Hubble** observed ISON in April-May and will see it again in October and December (if ISON survives)

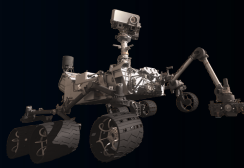



**STEREO** will be observing ISON as it passes by on its way to sun in late November

Astronauts aboard the **International Space Station** will be able to observe Comet ISON as it passes by the sun in late November

In January and March, **Swift** observed ISON when it was 460 million miles away from the sun

**Curiosity** will be observing ISON as it passes by Mars . Closest approach is October 1st



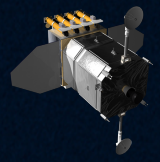
**Opportunity** will be observing ISON as it passes by Mars on its way to the sun on October 1st

**Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter** will be observing ISON as it passes by the moon in late November

**BRRISON**, a sub-orbital balloon, will be launched mid September to study ISON from above nearly all of the Earth's atmosphere

**Spitzer** observed ISON on June 13. The comet was 310 million miles away from the sun

**FORTIS**, a sounding rocket, will be launched in mid-to-late November to obtain ultra-violet spectra from ISON



**SDO** will have the ability to observe ISON under extreme-ultraviolet light when the comet is closest to the sun

**Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter** will be observing ISON as it passes by Mars . Closest approach is October 1st