

# Sun-Earth Day Highlights:

---

## Introduction to the 2011 Theme!

---

[Opening Sound Clip]

### [Troy Cline]

“Ancient Mysteries-Future Discoveries”

### [Sound clip]

My name is Troy Cline and welcome to Sun-Earth Day 2011. In today’s podcast I’ll tell you more about the new theme and all of the exciting new things that we have planned. In fact, if you listening to this podcast, it means that our new website has already launched. So head on over to [sunearthday.nasa.gov](http://sunearthday.nasa.gov) and take a look.

As many of you already know, Sun-Earth Day is much more than a one day event. It’s actually a combination of events and programs that occur throughout the year ending with a grand Sun-Earth Day celebration on or near the Spring Equinox in March. The main goal of this program is to encourage students of all ages to explore, discover and understand the dynamic connection between our Sun, Earth and other planets.

Each year the Sun-Earth Day team wraps a fresh new thematic approach around Sun-Earth Connection science. So this year we’re excited to announce that the theme for 2011 is “Ancient Mysteries: Future Discoveries”.

Together we’ll take a look at early civilizations who created structures containing solstice and equinox alignments. We’ll also explore how humankind continues to observe the *Sun and it’s mysteries* from the ground and from space. Although our technologies have changed over time, our goal **to understand the Sun**...remains the same.

### [Music Transition]

On March 20, 2011, our team will work with the award winning NASA EDGE team to produce video and webcast programming that will highlight several ‘solar related’ sites including: Chaco Canyon (New Mexico), Hovenweep (Utah), Chichen Itza (Mexico), Cahokia Mounds (Illinois), and Sunspot (New Mexico). Many of these sites present unique opportunities to develop authentic cultural connections to a variety of indigenous populations. We’ll also involve scientists who will fill you in on some of the latest heliophysics discoveries and what we hope to discover in the future.

So how do you get started? All you have to do is visit the Sun-Earth Day website where you'll find just about everything you need for this year's theme as well as materials from all of the past Sun-Earth Day themes. As you know, every year we update the resources for educators, museums, community groups and amateur astronomers. We also collect a variety of additional hard copy educational resources that are placed in a beautiful and new Sun-Earth Day folder. If you haven't already, I'd like to remind you to register on the Sun-Earth Day website in order to receive your FREE folder of materials while supplies last.

This year's list of resources has expanded even further to include:

- **A whole new podcast lineup** filled with latest updates and information from mission scientists, educators, and the Sun-Earth Day team.
- **A new Facebook Sharing Button** that can be found on every page of Sun-Earth Day website! Now you'll be able to instantly share your favorite resources with other Sun-Earth Day Fans.
- **Version 4 of the award winning Space Weather Media Viewer.** Updates to the viewer include several HD quality images of the Sun provided by the SDO mission. We've also added 6 new videos about the Heliosphere – Our Sun's atmosphere.

### **[Music Transition]**

This year's Sun-Earth Day program is taking full advantage of social media. You can now follow us on Facebook, Twitter and join us on the Sun-Earth Day YouTube Channel. While there you can post questions, create discussions, share images or simply connect with other space weather enthusiasts from around the world.

### **[Closing]**

I hope you enjoyed this Sun-Earth Day Highlights podcast. We are very interested in hearing your questions and comments. If you have something to say, just join us in Facebook or send an email to [sunearthday@gmail.com](mailto:sunearthday@gmail.com). If selected we'll share it on one of our upcoming podcasts!

For all other details about the Sun-Earth Day program including information about our past SED themes be sure to visit our website at [sunearthday.nasa.gov](http://sunearthday.nasa.gov). While there, don't forget to register in order to receive Sun-Earth Day updates!

You can learn more about NASA by simply visiting [www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov).