1
00:00:01,080 --> 00:00:03,380
All around the world, a tiny organism

2
00:00:03,380 --> 00:00:06,000
is causing a big problem.

3
00:00:06,000 --> 00:00:09,730
These life forms are called cyanobacteria,

4
00:00:09,730 --> 00:00:11,000
and they are growing in abundance.

5
00:00:11,000 --> 00:00:14,590
While normal amounts are an important part of

6
00:00:14,590 --> 00:00:16,000
of the food web, under the right conditions,

7
00:00:16,000 --> 00:00:21,000
these organisms can wreak havoc on ecosystems …

8
00:00:21,000 --> 00:00:26,000
It often starts when excess nutrients flow into a body of water.

9
00:00:26,000 --> 00:00:28,800
This, combined with warm waters

10
00:00:28,800 --> 00:00:31,000
and lots of sunshine,

11
00:00:31,000 --> 00:00:35,000
create just right conditions for an algal bloom.

12
00:00:35,000 --> 00:00:36,000
These blooms can release

13
00:00:36,000 --> 00:00:39,440

harmful toxins into the water that - when touched or consumed -

14
00:00:39,440 --> 00:00:41,000
can cause sickness and even death.

15
00:00:41,000 --> 00:00:46,000
As our climate continues to warm,

16
00:00:46,000 --> 00:00:49,000
these toxic blooms may become more and more common.

17
00:00:49,000 --> 00:00:51,000
The good news?

18
00:00:51,000 --> 00:00:53,000
We can use satellites to measure water color

19
00:00:53,000 --> 00:00:56,000
that can indicate if a bloom is present.

20
00:00:56,000 --> 00:00:59,000
This helps water managers know where they should test

21
00:00:59,000 --> 00:01:01,000
for harmful toxins.

22
00:01:01,000 --> 00:01:03,000
NASA and our partners are developing tools

23
00:01:03,000 --> 00:01:06,000
so that anyone can access this data to check

24
00:01:06,000 --> 00:01:11,000
the status of their local lakes and reservoirs.

25
00:01:11,000 --> 00:01:16,000
Clean freshwater is important for recreation and health.