

# DWARF PLANETS

•A dwarf planet is a celestial body that orbits the sun and has enough mass to be rounded by its own gravity. They are NOT satellites and do not have enough gravity to clear their neighborhood of “planetesimals” (i.e., small chunks of stuff).

•Pluto is now considered a dwarf planet. It has an elliptical orbit (as do all object that orbit the sun) that is NOT in the same plane as the larger planets.

•There are times when Pluto is closer to the Sun than is Neptune.

•Pluto has a moon that is almost the same size as Pluto.



1.)

•Eris is the most massive of the dwarf planet (it's larger than Pluto).

•There are currently 5 identified dwarf planets, but it is estimated that there could be as many as 2000 dwarf planets in our solar system.

•Relative comparison of sizes of dwarf planets:



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