



# The Power of Responsible Investing

A **Fiduciary**, generally, is anyone who exercises discretionary authority or control regarding the management of a retirement plan and its assets or who offers investment advice for a fee or has discretionary authority over the administration of a retirement plan.

- First Mercantile serves as an investment level fiduciary for our collective investment trust (CIT).
- As trustee of the CIT, we independently select and monitor the investments.
- First Mercantile provides the first layer of investment due diligence which allows plan fiduciaries to construct their plan's investment platform from a line-up of prudently selected choices.
- Plan sponsors are ultimately responsible for monitoring and providing a diversified investment lineup for their participants, while First Mercantile holds the fiduciary responsibility for monitoring the investments on our CIT platform.

Services designed to help you meet your fiduciary responsibilities include:

- Deposit WatchDog - monitoring employee contribution deposit timing
- Investments Watch List - notifying investment professionals and plan sponsors when an investment is being monitored more closely
- E-Reports - pushing reporting to plan sponsors for inclusion in their fiduciary binder

A **Collective Investment Trust** is a trust fund sponsored by a bank or trust company that pools the contributions of participants of qualified retirement plans. First Mercantile expands the capability of this vehicle by including CITs from a broad universe of investment alternatives including:

- Sub-advised by institutional money managers
- Investing in mutual funds
- Exchange traded funds
- Dimensional Fund Advisors

Benefits of using First Mercantile CITs for Retirement Plans:

- Typically lower fees than retail mutual funds
- Allows smaller companies access to institutional money managers
- Fiduciary oversight of the CITs provided by First Mercantile Advisor Review Committee
- Broad asset-class coverage

FOR PLAN SPONSORS

