

- **net acidity and alkalinity measurements:** Laboratories were instructed to measure net acidity and alkalinity in weekly leachate samples using methods listed in Table 4.2. Laboratory 6 did not measure net acidity and measured alkalinity in samples using indicator paper. For this reason, alkalinity and acidity results from this laboratory were not comparable to results generated in the other participating laboratories and were not used in determining method performance.
- **initial flush of samples:** Section 7.4.1 of the method describes procedures for performing an initial flush of the samples prior to exposing the samples to weathering procedures. This initial flush is intended to remove precipitates and salts that may have accumulated during sample storage. Laboratories flushed each column with reagent water, from three to four times during this initial flush period. With the exception of Laboratory 8, laboratories reported the volume of water added and removed from each column during the initial flush.
- **weekly saturation:** Columns in Laboratory 1 were exposed to a two-week period of saturation during Weeks 13 and 14. Laboratory 1 results submitted during these weeks are not comparable to results submitted by other laboratories, and were therefore eliminated from method performance evaluations.
- **metals measurements:** Analytical results for measurement of metals in samples from Laboratories 1 through 7 were reported in  $\mu\text{g/L}$  by the metals laboratory. Laboratory 8 reported analytical results for measurement of metals in  $\text{mg/L}$ . These results were not comparable to the results reported  $\mu\text{g/L}$  and therefore, were not included in determinations of interlaboratory RPD or relative standard deviation (RSD).



**Figure 4.1 Leaching Column Assembly.**