

Animals can usually be coaxed out from behind the damper, but may need to be removed manually or with specialized tools. In prefabricated fireplaces, animals sometimes are located in areas other than the flue, and this requires specialized removal techniques. We've never had an animal we couldn't remove.

It's important to prevent as well as remove animals. You can prevent birds and animals from entering your chimney with chimney caps or covers and steel screening.